

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

PAUL W. KEARNEY



PLEASE RETURN THIS TO MY SHELF --
I LIKE IT VERY MUCH MYSELF!

Elizabeth Bunting.

RIDDLES AND
CONUNDRUMS

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

Including Charades, Enigmas, Paradoxes,
Anagrams, Missing Word Puzzles, Magic
Squares and Other Diversions
for All Occasions

BY

PAUL W. KEARNEY

Editor of "Toasts and Anecdotes"



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With the completion of this interesting task it becomes my obligation to make due acknowledgment here of the painstaking and constructive assistance so cheerfully invested in the venture by Miss Beth Elliot. Both the reader and the editor owe her their hearty thanks,

P. W. K.

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EDITOR'S PREFACE

When folks want to get some fun out of "racking their brains," they drop the perplexities of the day and turn to Riddles and Conundrums. One might think that Life itself was so full of enigmas that the average individual would adopt a simpler form of amusement. But such is not the case. Our habit seems to be the postponement of important vexations for the enjoyment of the idle pastimes. And that is well—we can cross our serious bridges when we come to them. Meanwhile let us skip back and forth over the quizzical shadow of the Sphinx.

The Riddle comes down to us well recommended by the ages. The name itself seems to have come from the Latin *rerī*, "to think." Other sources have been given it in other ancient tongues, but always we come back to the root, "to think." Its early function, more than likely, was to impress upon a speaker's listeners an appreciation of his wisdom and learning. Perhaps the most famous illustration of this was Samson propounding his riddle to the Philistines.

The telling of Riddles in early days was as much of a common practice as is the telling of jokes to-day. The mixture of wisdom, thinking ability and humor appealed to the philosophical ancients and Riddle-guessing became as firmly established in their lives as any other form of social intercourse. So important, indeed, was the Riddle that the correct solution of a particularly knotty one elevated one man to a throne.

According to mythology, the road to Delphi was blocked by a monster called the Sphinx, possessing the

body of a lion with the upper part of a woman. Crouching on top of a rock, it stopped all passers and asked this riddle: "What animal is that which has four feet at morning, two at noon and three at night?" And the penalty for the wrong answer was death!

A brave young man named **Œdipus**, hearing of the monster, sallied forth to try his luck with the riddle. His answer to the question was: "Man, who in childhood creeps on his hands and knees, in manhood walks erect, and in old age hobbles along with the aid of a staff."

It proved to be the answer. Whereupon the Sphinx committed suicide and the overjoyed people made **Œdipus** their king!

The Conundrum is a sort of by-product of the Riddle, distinguished from its parent by the fact that a pun of some kind usually forms the basis of the answer. The question of the Sphinx was a technical Riddle. But such an enigma as "When is a door not a door?" is a Conundrum. The answer, you see, depends on a pun for its point: "When it is a-jar."

With the gradual changing of temperament that has accompanied the world's development, the Conundrum has practically displaced the Riddle in common currency. This, no doubt, is due to the popular trend toward the clever—the amiable desire to get a laugh out of Life by fair means or foul! So, until that distant day when we find ourselves surfeited with laughs, more power to the Conundrum!

In compiling this collection, we have been governed in our method by several factors. The fundamental intent was to put between two covers the best collection of these "catch wits" that could be rounded up in the by-ways and hedges of literature. Secondly, there was

the desire to respond to the growing demand for help from party hostesses who have found, of late, that Riddles and Conundrums are of considerable value in the early stages of a festive evening.

Their use on Place Cards at a table where strangers are gathering has proven itself priceless in dissipating that first stiffness which always prevails through the first few courses. Having each guest read aloud his own question, to be answered by anybody who can manage it, gives joviality a running start never before approached by the prosaic appearance of a fruit cocktail. Made into games for solution between courses, these catch questions further contribute to the gaiety of the informal affair.

This has prompted us to present our extensive collection in an arrangement which we believe to be more practical than that of any other book. The division into subjects, with each question numbered, cross-indexed and tabulated at the top of each page, enables the reader to quickly assemble all the necessary material on any plausible subject. Thus, if you are giving a Shower or an Engagement Party to some girl friend, you will find forty-seven riddles on "the Eternal Feminine" listed under one chapter head, with references to thirty-eight others in different parts of the book which can be readily found. The same rule applies to other subjects, eighteen major departments comprising the book.

It is our earnest hope that our efforts may be rewarded with your satisfaction.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The contents of this book are divided into eighteen major departments. Each individual riddle, conundrum, charade and puzzle is numbered. At the upper, outside corner of each page you will find, in bold-face type, the number of the first and last item on that page. And at the end of each department or chapter you will find a list of numbers referring to other questions and answers bearing on the subject matter of the preceding chapter. When you proceed to look for these cross-indexed references, look at the top of the page for the tally numbers—and save yourself a great deal of time.

SECTION I

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS IN RHYME

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

RHYMED

- (1) There is a good state there is no doubt of it;
But those who are in, entirely are out of it.
Sane-insane.

* * *

- (2) If you were my *first*, and I were my *whole*,
My *second* might go where he pleased;
For you'd be caressed, and I should be blessed,
And the rest of my life would be eased.
(And the wheels of life's cart would be greased.)
Bride-groom.

* * *

- (3) My *first* makes company,
My *second* shuns company,
My *third* assembles company,
My *whole* puzzles company.
Co-nun-drums.

* * *

- (4) You name me *once* and I am famed
For deeds of noble daring;
You name me *twice* and I am found
In savage customs sharing.
Tar-tar.

- (5) My *first* I hope you are,
My *second* I see you are,
My *whole* I know you are.

Wel-come.

* * *

- (6) We travel much, yet pris'ners are,
And close confined to boot;
We with the swiftest horse keep pace,
Yet always go on foot.

A pair of spurs.

* * *

- (7) Formed long ago, yet made to-day,
I'm most employed while others sleep;
What none would like to give away,
Yet no one likes to keep.

Bed.

* * *

- (8) An ugly little fellow, that some might call a pet,
Was easily transmuted to a parson when he ate;
And when he set off running, an Irishman was he,
Then took to wildly raving, and hung upon a tree.
Cur, cur-ate, Cur-ran, currant!

* * *

- (9) A man that was young at three score and ten,
He gave it me in and wrote it down then,
His friend was more old at twenty and two,
(You may think it false; but 'tis certainly
true;)

For old died young, and young he died old.

The young was named Old, and the old was named
Young,

So a paradox from that odd circumstance sprung.

- (10) What's that, what's that? Oh, I shall faint,
 Call, call the priest to lay it!
 Transpose it, and to king and saint,
 And great and good you pay it.
 Spectre; respect.

* * *

- (11) Complete I betoken the presence of death,
 Devoid of all symptom of life-giving breath;
 But banish my tail, and, surpassingly strange,
 Life, ardour, and courage, I get by the change.
 Corpse; corps.

* * *

- (12) Beneath the skies a creature once did dwell—
 So sacred writers unto us do tell,
 He lived, he breathed, in this vain world, 'tis
 true,
 Though he ne'er sinned, or any evil knew;
 He never shall in heaven's high kingdom dwell,
 Or e'er be doomed to feel the pangs of hell;
 Yet in him an immortal soul there was
 That must be damned—or, live among the just.
 The fish that swallowed Jonah.

* * *

- (13) We are little airy creatures,
 Each have different forms and features;
 One of us in a glass is set,
 Another you will find in jet;
 A third, less bright, is set in tin,
 A fourth a shining box within;
 And the fifth if you pursue,
 It will never fly from you.

Vowels.

- (14) Your initials begin with an A,
You've an A at the end of your name,
The *whole* of your name is an A,
And it's backwards and forwards the same.
Anna!

* * *

- (15) Safe on a fair one's arm my *first* may rest,
And raise no tumult in a husband's breast,
To those who neither creep, nor run, nor fly,
The want of legs my *second* will supply.
My *whole's* a rival of the fairest toast,
And when I'm liked the best I suffer most.
Muf-fin.

* * *

- (16) Can you tell me why
A hypocrite's eye
Can better descry
Than you or I
On how many toes
A pussy cat goes?
A man of deceit,
Can best count-er-feit;
And so, I suppose,
Can best count her toes!

* * *

- (17) Ever running on my race,
Never staying at one place,
Through the world I make my tour,
Everywhere at the same hour,
If you please to spell my name,
Reversed or forward 'tis the same.
Noon.

- (18) Water soft is my *first*, water hard is my *second*,
Sticks made of my *whole* are by many sweet
reckoned.

Liquor-ice.

* * *

- (19) There's a word composed of three letters alone
Which reads backwards and forwards the
same,
It expresses the sentiments warm from the heart,
And to beauty lays principal claim!

Eye.

* * *

- (20) The cat did my *first*, with a curl of her tail,
When the game she had made quite secure,
By means of my *second*, and not of my *whole*,
As she ought to have done, I am sure.

Pur-chase.

* * *

- (21) My *first's* a dirty little brute,
My *second's* at the end on't;
My *third* like many an honest man
Is on a fool dependent.

Pig-tail.

* * *

- (22) A hundred and one by fifty divide,
And next let a cipher be duly applied;
And if the result you should rightly divine,
You'll find that the *whole* makes but one out of
nine.

CI, CLI, CLIO (Clio, the Muse of Mistory), one of
"the happy Nine" muses.

- (23) Legs I have got, but seldom walk
I backbite all, yet never talk.

A flea.

* * *

- (24) My number, definite and known,
Is ten times ten, told ten times o'er;
Though half of me is one alone,
And half exceeds all count and score.
Thou-sand.

* * *

- (25) Two letters often tempt mankind,
And those who yield will surely find
Two others ready to enforce
The punishment that comes of course.
X-S and D-K: (excess and decay).

* * *

- (26) There are two youths mentioned in Scripture,
who, in degrees of consanguinity, were so re-
markably circumstanced, that their father was
their grandfather—their mothers were their
sisters—their sisters were aunts—and they
were each other's uncles! Who were they?
Moab and Ben-ammi, by Scripture 'tis clear,
Were the sons and grandsons of Lot,
Whose mothers, their sisters and aunts also were,
Each was uncle to each—was he not?

* * *

- (27) My *first* doth affliction denote,
Which my *second* is destined to feel,
But my *whole* is the sure antidote,
That affliction to soothe and to heal.
Woman.

- (28) Ere Adam was my early days began,
 I ape each creature, and resemble man;
 I gently creep o'er tops of tender grass,
 Nor leave the least impression where I pass,
 Touch me you may, but I can ne'er be felt,
 Nor even yet was tasted, heard, or smelt,
 Yet seen each day, if not, be sure at night,
 You'll quickly find me out by candle-light.

Shadow.

* * *

- (29) I came to a field and couldn't get through it,
 So I went to a school and learnt how to do it.

Fence!

* * *

- (30) My *first* if 'tis lost, music's not worth a straw,
 My *second's* most graceful (?) in old age or law,
 Not to mention divines; but my *whole* cares for
 neither,
 Eats fruit and scares ladies in fine summer
 weather.

Ear-wig.

* * *

- (31) Those who take me improve, be their task what
 it may,
 Those who have me are sorrowful through the
 long day,
 I am hated alike by the foolish and wise,
 Yet without me none to eminence rise.

Pains.

* * *

- (32) Twice ten are six of us,
 Six are but three of us,

Nine are but four of us,
 What can we possibly be?
 Would you know more of us?
 I'll tell you more of us;
 Twelve are but six of us,
 Five are but four, do you see?

The number of letters contained in each numeral.

* * *

- (33) Three letters three rivers proclaim,
 Three letters an ode given to fame,
 Three letters an attribute name,
 Three letters a compliment claim.

X-Y-D (Ex, Wye, Dee), L-E-G (elegy), N-R-G
 (energy), and U-X-L (you excel).

* * *

- (34) The beginning of eternity,
 The end of time and space,
 The beginning of every end,
 The end of every race.

The letter E.

* * *

- (35) My *first* is what mortals ought to do,
 My *second* is what mortals have done;
 My *whole* is the result of my first.

Love-err (lover).

* * *

- (36) A stranger comes from foreign shores,
 Perchance to seek relief;
 Curtail him and you find his tale
 Unworthy of belief;
 Curtailed again you recognize
 An old Egyptian chief.

Alien-A lie-Ali.

- (37) My *first* is a thing, though not very bewitchin',
Is of infinite use when placed in a kitchen,
My *second's* a song, though a very strange thing,
No one person living could ever yet sing;
My *whole* is a man, who's a place in the city,
But the last of his race you'd apply to for pity.
Jack Catch.

* * *

- (38) There is a noun of plural number,
Foe to peace and tranquil slumber;
But add to it the letter s,
And—wondrous metamorphosis—
Plural is plural now no more,
And sweet what bitter was before.
Cares-caress.

* * *

- (39) My *first* of anything is half,
My *second* is complete;
And so remains until once more
My *first* and *second* meet.
Semi-circle.

* * *

- (40) I am borne on the gale in the stillness of the
night,
A sentinel's signal that all is not right.
I am not a swallow, yet skim o'er the wave;
I am not a doctor, yet patients I save;
When the sapling has grown to a flourishing
tree,
It finds a protector henceforward in me.
Bark.

- (41) My love for you will never know
 My *first*, nor get my *second*;
 'Tis like your wit and beauty, so
 My *whole* 'twill aye be reckoned.
 End-less.

* * *

- (42) My *first* is irrational,
 My *second* is rational,
 My *third* is mechanical,
 My *whole* is scientific.
 Horse-man-ship.

* * *

- (43) Two gamblers were sitting,
 Striving to cheat each other,
 And, by a cunning trick, my *last*
 Had raised a fearful bother.
 The one who lost he looked my *first*,
 But he who won assumed my *whole*,
 Which little did the luckless one
 Amid his bitter grief console.
 Since both were rogues, we will not screen them—
 There was not my *second* to choose between
 them.

Grim-ace.

* * *

- (44) My *first* is a circle, my *second* a cross,
 If you meet with my *whole* look out for a toss!
 Ox.

* * *

- (45) My *first* is a bit of butter,
 My *next* a bit of mutton,
 My *whole* a little shutter,
 Put on to pinch a glutton.
 A but-ton.

- (46) I am white and I am brown; I am large and I'm
small;
Male and female I am, and yet that's not all—
I've a head without brains, and a mouth with-
out wit;
I can stand without legs, but I can never sit.
Although I've no mind, I am false and I'm true,
Can be faithful and constant to time and to you;
I am praised and I'm blamed for faults not my
own,
But I feel both as little as if I were stone.
A bust.

* * *

- (47) When my *first* is my *last*, like a Protean elf,
Will black become white, and a part of yourself?
Ebony-bone.

* * *

- (48) Ever eating, every cloying,
Never finding full repast,
All devouring, all destroying,
Till it eats the world at last.
Fire.

* * *

- (49) Complete, you'll own, I commonly am seen
On garments new, and old, the rich, the mean;
On ribbons gay I court your admiration,
But yet, I'm oft a cause for much vexation
To those on whom I make a strong impression;
The meed, full oft, of folly or transgression;
Curtail me, I become a slender shred,
And 'tis what I do before I go to bed,
But an excursion am without my head;

Again complete, next take off my head;
 Then will be seen a savory dish instead;
 Again behead me, and without dissection,
 I'm what your fruit is when in full perfection;
 Curtailed—the verb to tear appears quite plain;
 Take head and tail off—I alone remain.
 Stripe; strip; trip; tripe; ripe; rip; I.

* * *

- (50) Enigma guessers, tell me what I am.
 I've been a drake, a fox, a hare, a lamb—
 You all possess me, and in every street
 In varied shape and form with me you'll meet;
 With Christians I am never single known,
 Am green or scarlet, brown, white, gray, or
 stone.
 I dwelt in Paradise with Mother Eve,
 And went with her, when she, alas! did leave.
 To Britian with Caractacus I came,
 And made Augustus Cæsar known to fame.
 The lover grieves me on his wedding-day,
 The poet writes me in his natal lay;
 The father always gives me to each son;
 It matters not if he has twelve or one;
 But has he daughters?—then 'tis plainly shown
 That I to them am seldom but a loan.

Name.

* * *

- (51) Those who have me do not wish for me,
 Those who have me do not wish to lose me;
 Those who gain me have me no longer.
 Law-suit.

- (52) I seldom speak, but in my sleep;
I never cry, but sometimes weep;
Chamleon-like, I live on air,
And dust to me is dainty fare.

The nose!

* * *

- (53) Without my *first* you'd look very strange;
My *second* you much want to be;
My *whole* is what many a lady has worn
At a ball, reception, or play.

Nose-gay.

* * *

- (54) My *first* she was a serving maid—
She went to fetch some tea;
How much she brought my *second* tells,
As plainly as can be.

Now when you have the answer found,
Name it to others too;
My *whole* is just the very thing,
In telling them, you'll do.

Ann-ounce.

* * *

- (55) I've led the powerful to deeds of ill,
And to the good have given determined will.
In battle-fields my flag has been outspread,
Amid grave senators my followers tread.
A thousand obstacles impede my upward way,
A thousand voices to my claim say "Nay";
For none by me have e'er been urged along,
But envy followed them and breath'd a tale of
wrong.

Yet struggling upward, striving still to be
 Worshipped by millions—by the bond and free.
 I've fought my way, and on the hills of Fame,
 The trumpet's blast pronounced the loud ac-
 claim;

When by the judgment of the world I've been
 Hurl'd from the height my eyes had scarcely
 seen,

And I have found the garland o'er my head
 Too frail to live—my home was with the dead.

Ambition.

* * *

(56) I was before man, I am o'er his doom,
 And I dwell on his mind like a terrible gloom.
 In my garments the whole of Creation I hold,
 And these garments no being, but God can
 unfold.

Look upward to heaven I baffle your view,
 Look into the sea and your sight I undo.
 Look back to the past—I appear like a power,
 That locks up the tale of each unnumbered hour.
 Look forth to the future, my finger will steal
 Through the mists of the night, and affix its
 dread seal.

Ask the flower why it grows, ask the sun why it
 shines,

Ask the gems of the earth why they lie in its
 mines;

Ask the earth why it flies through the regions
 of space,

And the moon why it follows the earth in its
 race;

And each object my name to your query will
 give,

And ask you again why you happened to live.
The world to disclose me pays terrible cost,
Yet, when I'm revealed, I'm instantly lost.

Mystery.

* * *

- (57) My father was a slippery lad, and died 'fore I
was born,
My ancestors lived centuries before I gained
form.
I always lived by sucking, I ne'er ate any bread,
I was'nt good for anything, till after I was dead.
They bang'd me, and they whang'd me, they
turned me outside in,
They threw away my body, saved nothing but
my skin.
When I grew old and crazy—was quite worn
out and thin,
They tore me all to pieces, and made me up
ag'in.
And then I traveled up and down the country
for a teacher,
To some of those who saw me, I was good as
any preacher.

Flax.

* * *

- (58) My *first* a messenger of gladness;
My *last* an instrument of sadness;
My *whole* looked down upon my last and
smiled—
Upon a wretch disconsolate and wild.
But when my *whole* looked down and smiled no
more,
That wretch's frenzy and his pain were o'er.

Sun-beam.

- (59) My *first*, loud and chattering through the air,
 Bounded 'mid tree tops high,
 Then saw his image mirror'd, where
 My *second* murmured by.

Taking it for a friend, he strayed
 T'wards where the stream did roll,
 And was the sort of fool that's made
 The first day of my *whole*.

Ape-ril (1).

* * *

- (60) I paint without colors, I fly without wings,
 I people the air with most fanciful things;
 I hear sweetest music where no sound is heard,
 And eloquence moves me, nor utters a word.
 The past and the present together I bring,
 The distant and near gather under my wing.
 Far swifter than lightning my wonderful flight,
 Through the sunshine of day, or the darkness of
 night;
 And those who would find me, must find me,
 indeed,
 As this picture I scan, and this poesy read.

Imagination.

* * *

- (61) 'Twas winter and some merry boys
 To their companions beckoned,
 And forth they ran with laughing tongues,
 And much enjoyed my *second*.

And as the sport was followed up,
 There rose a gladsome burst,
 When lucklessly amid their group
 One fell upon my *first*.

There is with those of larger growth
 A winter of the soul,
 And when they fall, too oft, alas!
 They evidence my whole.

Back-slide!

* * *

(62) You eat it, you drink it, deny who can;
 It is sometimes a woman, sometimes a man?
 A toast.

* * *

(63) Some frightened sheep were running o'er a field
 And as they ran my *first* I often heard;
 But could not learn the cause of their alarm,
 Because that *first* was not a meaning word,

And then I thought, how great the gift of
 speech—

To utter hopes and joys, and pains and fears;
 It is my *second*, and the greatest, too,
 That helps man's journey through this vale
 of tears.

'At length, high in a tree, I spied my *whole*;
 From Barnum's show it just had run away,
 And, full of mischief, not a moment lost,
 But with the timid sheep commenced its play.

Ba-boon.

* * *

(64) My *first* may to a lady be a comfort or a bore,
 My *second*, where you are, you may for com-
 fort shut the door.

My *whole* will be a welcome guest
 Where tea and tattle yield their zest.

Muff-in.

- (65) Through thy short and shadowy span
 I am with thee, child of man;
 With thee still from first to last,
 In pain and pleasure, feast and fast,
 At thy cradle and thy death,
 Thine earliest wail and thy dying breath,
 Seek thou not to shun or save,
 On the earth or in the grave;
 The worm and I, the worm and I,
 In the grave together lie.

The letter A.

* * *

- (66) Fly! murderer, fly! I shall pursue you,
 And by my mystic power undo you;
 The stoutest arm by me has oft been shaken;
 By me, the boldest heart has been o'ertaken.
 See where the hare before the thirsting hound,
 Skims in her maddened flight the daisied ground,
 And whilst her cry of agony you hear,
 Although you see me not, know I am near.
 When storms sweep o'er the foaming sea,
 Then is the hour of my victory.
 For bolder than the heart of man must be
 The heart whose portals never ope to me.
 When man lies trembling on the bed of death,
 Yielding to God his spirit with his breath,
 Mark the deep lines that his fair looks deface,
 And in those lines you may my features trace.

Fear.

* * *

- (67) Who can tell where I dwell?
 Everywhere my forms are near.
 Some in silver, some in gold;
 Some in young, some in old;

Some in great, some in small,
 Some in short, some in tall.
 In the bird, and in the maid,
 'Neath the cloak work'd o'er with braid.
 Where light plumes wave and diamonds shine,
 Where paint and pertness both combine,
 To give the features haughty air,
 When simple poverty is near.
 Peacock, spread your golden tail;
 Tell the maiden she is frail;
 And your feathers fair shall be,
 When she is dead and lost to me.

Pride.

* * *

- (68) A lady gave me a gift she had not,
 And I received her gift which I took not.
 She gave it willingly yet she would not;
 And I received it, albeit I could not.

If she give it me I force not,
 And if she take it again, I grieve not.
 Consider what this is and tell not,
 For I am fast sworn, I may not.

A kiss.

* * *

- (69) The instant I'm born, though my frame is quite
 weak,
 Most wondrous to utter, I smartly can speak;
 My parents are pleased and greatly rejoice,
 And seem quite enraptured to hear my sweet
 voice;
 But short, ah! too short is the time that I stay,
 For when I've done speaking I languish away;

Yet this to my parents but seldom gives pain,
 For they with a touch can call life back again.
 Now, ye fair girls, and ye cheerful young swains,
 Come search for my name, and take me for your
 pains.

A kiss.

* * *

- (70) No rose can boast a livelier hue
 Than I can when my birth is new;
 Of shorter life than that sweet flower,
 I bloom and fade within the hour,
 Like Marplot, eager to reveal
 The secret, I would fain conceal!

A blush.

* * *

- (71) Fifty is my *first*, nothing is my *second*,
 Five just makes my *third*, my *fourth's* a vowel
 reckoned;
 Now, to fill my *whole*, put all my parts together,
 I die if I get cold, but never mind cold weather.

L-O-V-E.

* * *

- (72) My *first*; how many hopes attend
 The breaking of it's seal!
 What more can test a seeming friend
 Than what it will reveal?

My *second* soon we all shall be,
 Though lofty be our grade;
 And those who live shall surely see
 My *whole* above us cast it's shade.

Wil-low.

- (73) What ladies with a grace may feign,
And when you dust looks well again;
What many a man who has a wife
Submits to for a quiet life?

Anything.

* * *

- (74) What does man love mōre than life,
Hate more than death or mortal strife;
That which contented men desire,
Which poor men have and rich require;
The miser spends, the spendthrift saves,
And all men carry to their graves?

Nothing.

* * *

- (75) My *first* Polonius oft employed,
And the young Hamlet sore annoyed.
And in the ear of listening youth
The aged often whispers truth
By its proverbial aid.
My *second* by the horses' tread
Is raised; or where the coffin'd dead
Beneath the earth are laid.
My *whole* the cleanly housewife strews,
Lest you her well-swept floor abuse.

Saw-dust.

* * *

- (76) Where am I when stern winter binds the earth
with icy chains,
'And, like a cruel despot, spoils the kingdom
where he reigns?
Loved by the old and yōung—by the wakeful
and the sleeping,

Though swept from off the fair earth, my spirit
 still is keeping
 Her treasure for the future; and soon shall
 come the day
 Of my triumph o'er the enemy that keeps my
 charms away.
 Always past, and always coming—sometimes
 I'm here, and gone;
 As many battles I have lost, as victories I have
 won,
 My touch is like a charm, which warms the
 earth's cold breast,
 And glads the weeping mourner, by gloomy
 cares oppress'd.

Spring.

* * *

(77) Cut off my head, and singular I am;
 Cut off my tail, and plural I appear;
 Cut off both head and tail, and, wondrous fact,
 Although my middle's left, there's nothing there.
 What is my head? A sounding sea;
 What is my tail? A flowing river;
 In ocean's greatest depths I fearless play,
 Parent of sweetest sounds though mute forever.

Cod.

* * *

(78) Without my *first* nor man nor beast could live,
 It was my *second* who my *first* did give;
 And now vain man assumes my *second's* name,
 And to my *first* makes his resistless claim.
 Oh! luckless they who feel the harsh control,
 When cold and heartless proves my grasping
whole.

Land-lord.

- (79) May my *first* never be lost in my *second*,
To prevent me enjoying my *whole*.

Friend-ship.

* * *

- (80) Pray tell me ladies, if you can,
Who is that highly favored man,
Who, though he has marreid many a wife,
May still live single all his life?

A clergyman.

* * *

- (81) My *first* denotes a brilliant place,
Where belles and jewels shine;
My *next* transports the merchant's stores,
Or produce of the mine;
Sweet pleasures in my *whole* abound,
Apart from worldly strife;
By nymphs and swains it's always found
The happiest part of life.

Court-ship.

* * *

- (82) Born of ignorance, I spread
A gloom wherever mortals tread.
None e'er saw me—none e'er will;
Yet blood I very often spill.
I have striven with fearful might
From the world to shut the light.
Liberty and I are known
To struggle for the mental throne;
I have swayed more minds of men
Than can be told by poet's pen;
And often shall the aspiring soul
Feel the sting of my control.

The battle-field, the gory sea,
The golden calf, the hoary tree,
The prison bar, the scorching flame,
Bear record of my power and shame.

Bigotry.

* * *

- (83) Faithful to beauty's charms and grace,
The form of loveliness I trace;
But ev'ry blemish I detect,
And point out every defect.
Though long a fav'rite with the fair,
I sometimes fill them with despair.
Still I'm consulted ev'ry day,
By the old and young—the sad, the gay;
All fly to me, so fam'd for truth,
Uninfluenced by age or youth;
For I nor flatter nor defame,
So now, I think, you'll guess my name.

A looking-glass.

* * *

- (84) I dry the tear; I still the throbbing heart;
I whisper peace when loving friends depart;
I travel where the hardy seamen roam,
And dwell within the confines of their home.
I go with warriors to the battle-field,
Fighting with both sides until one doth yield.
I ease the couch whereon the dying lie;
And where the word of truth is, there am I.
The tide of stern adversity may roll—
I still its waves and calm the troubled soul,
I am not light nor heat, but I can give
Great light and warmth, and bid the dying live.

I'm born of sorrow, and am the sweetest child
 That ever on my weeping mother smiled.
 And would'st thou know a place where I might
 be,
 Look at the single branch upon the stricken
 tree.

Hope.

* * *

(85) Look up, thou soul by sin oppress'd,
 And let my light compose thy breast!
 I drive the clouds of unbelief away,
 And ope the portals to eternal day.
 Religion is not my adopted name,
 I am the base, Religion is the frame.
 When on the bed of death the sufferer lies,
 I am the light that opes his closed eyes.
 And ever bless'd are the lamented dead,
 O'er whom my all sustaining wings were spread.
 Death flees away whenever I draw near;
 Loses his sting, exites no more the tear.
 I break the scythe of Time, and thus defy
 The power of man's most potent enemy.
 God looketh down, and from his heavenly throne
 Blesseth the meekest spot where I am known.

Faith.

* * *

(86) I wonder when the night is dark,
 I tread forbidden ground;
 I rouse the house-dog's sullen bark,
 And o'er the world am found.
 My victims fill the gloomy jail,
 And to the gallows speed;
 Though in the dark with visage pale,

Now, if you would my *first* (prohibitionists
say),

The victims of sorrow and wrong,
Set them an example, the curse throw away,
Your joy will be great, and your life will
be long.

Bless-ing.

* * *

- (90) My *first*, where sandy plains are spread,
Fiercely consumes the life
Of those, who o'er the desert tread,
Far from the city's strife,
My *second*, 'mid the city's strife
Consumes the very soul
Of those who waste their precious hours,
And never find my *whole*.

Sol-ace.

* * *

- (91) My *first* was shouted in the battle's strife,
When war, with all it's bloody deeds was rife.
My *second*, 'mid her weeping friends, was found,
For he was slain before the fight was o'er,
And my *whole* sped the tidings that—he was no
more!

On-ward.

* * *

- (92) My *first* we all are of,
Tho different we be;
My *second* none could lift,
Save by machinery,
My *whole* will serve us when at last,
The trials of our life are past.

Sex-ton.

- (93) A word there is five syllables contains;
Take one away—not one of them remains!
Mo-no-syllable.

* * *

- (94) Swifter than Time we speed;
More terrible than Fate;
To places never known we lead,
And tales untold relate.
To us there are no dead,
We murder, but we never kill,
Wounds made by us have never bled,
Nor evil deeds brought ill.
Look at the wretch by yonder cliff,
Clinging with wild despair;
The fiend pursues to strike him down,
With terrifying air.
The blow is struck, the fiend has fled,
With form and visage grim;
No wound is made, but the victim found
A pleasant “down” for him.

Dreams.

* * *

- (95) Without me the world had never been
Other than forest wild, or ocean green.
I map the earth with lines all fair to see,
Remove the mountain, and transplant the tree.
Egypt’s vast pyramids of me were born;
Without me Greece were of her temples shorn.
By me the palace rear’d which shelters kings;
By me the cot wherein the loving maiden sings.
By me the ship is steer’d across the sea,
By me the battle fought triumphantly.

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 By me the cot wherein the loving maiden sings.
 By me the ship is steer’d across the sea,
 By me the battle fought triumphantly.

By me the seed is sown, the harvest glean'd,
 And stubborn soil from barrenness redeem'd.
 With hands, without, my functions are fulfill'd,
 Wherever web is spun, or land is till'd.
 Bird and beast, fish, reptile, all devote
 Themselves to me, in town or clime remote.
 What am I then? Surely I'm known to you;
 Your friend—oldest, and best, and ever true.

Labor.

* * *

- (96) Feeling very ill one day,
 (What it was I cannot say),
 But a pain like *tic douloureux*
 Ran the nerves of my head through;
 Twinge and pang, pang and twinge.
 Soon the door was on the hinge,
 And the doctor coming in,
 Felt my pulse and pulled my chin,
 That he might better see the tongue,
 Which only sad complainings sung.
 Then he formed a sage conviction,
 And wrote at once a good prescription.
 Calling then my servant maid,
 He in her hands the paper laid;
 "My *first*, my *second*, instantly,
 Or your master worse will be!"
 But the minx she loitered long;
 Pain increasing, spasms, strong.
 Down I fell, and took a roll:
 On what I fell reveals the *whole*.
 Pity that the servant maid
 On her errand thus delayed!

Drug-get.

(97) My *first* was a shocking coquette,
 I shall never forget;
 So tight were her stays, so arch were her ways,
 And her bright eyes sent forth a luminous blaze.
 Oh! she was my pet!

She told me she lov'd me—as truth I receiv'd it,
 And believed it.

And did I love her ? To prove it I did
 Affix to my *second* my name as she bid;
 And she receiv'd it.

You're a "jolly good chap" said she, cunningly
 winking.

This set me thinking!

For she took up my *second* and bid me good day,
 And with her "solicitor" trotted away,
 Saying—"Dear Mr. Jenkins, you jolly old soul,
 You will very soon find we have both done my
whole!"

Mis(s)deed.

* * *

(98) I made up my mind to *second* my *first*,
 And my *whole* from the dealer received;
 But I found that my *second*
 Was too long for my *first*,
 And returned my *whole* to the maker deceived.

Picture-frame.

* * *

(99) Oh, no, says my *first*, 'tis so warm and hot,
 I really can't put on my *second*,
 Though 'tis quite an age I've been in my *whole*
 I still very pretty am reckoned.

Widow-hood.

- (100) A conveyance is my *first*,
My *second* we love dearly,
My *whole* is trampled under foot,
And often flogged severely.

Car-pet.

* * *

- (101) Take half of what is needful for the dead,
What helps physicians to their daily bread;
Join these together, bright and clear,
And drink for breakfast, without fear.

Cof-fee.

* * *

- (102) My *first* is never on,
And never warm my *second*,
By Jove, 'tis time I was at my *whole*,
For by the boy I'm beckoned.

Off-ice.

* * *

- (103) My *first* receives but never tells
The secret of a friend;
My *second* does upon my first
For its success depend.
My *whole* with pain the fair admit,
Yet gladly to receive it sit;
And whilst they cringe with pain and fright,
They hail my beauty with delight.

Ear-ring.

* * *

- (104) Deep in my *first* my *second* lies,
Unseen by mortal eyes,
Rough and unknown; yet when brought forth
'Tis deemed a noble prize.

There are robbers in the house, you say?
 Then shut the doors each one,
 And bar each window firm and fast:
 We'll keep them safe till dawn.
 The morning came, loud was the wail,
 And sad, sad was the sight:
 The robbers had by *whole* escaped,
 And bolted through the night.

Strata-gem.

* * *

(105) Jem Jenkinson waited on Brown,
 To ask for the hand of his daughter;
 He held a snug berth in the town,
 And felt pretty sure he had caught her.
 But queer are the fortunes of love,
 And Jem's was one of the worst;
 For Brown, in my *second*, most unlike a dove,
 Right speedily showed him my *first*.
 Our hero abashed and confounded,
 Lost over his feelings control,
 And hurrying home deeply wounded,
 Spoke of it when there as my *whole*!

Out-rage!

* * *

(106) Hailing with pride the conqueror; and as he
 passed along,
 I recognized his form again; his locks were
 whiter now—
 The weight of earthly cares had left their mark
 upon his brow.
 Hark to the trumpet's brazen notes! Hark
 to the thundering drums!

And every voice proclaims aloud, "Behold the
conqueror comes!"

All through that long and weary *whole*, he
still kept toiling on;

Branded my *first*, brave as my *last*—heroic
Washington!

Rebel-lion.

* * *

(107) My *first* is a word meant to "hold" or "pos-
sess,"

'Tis spelt with four letters I'm free to confess.

My *second's* an instrument made to confine,

To give you the key I politely decline.

My *whole* when you find it, will give you the
name

Of a brave British hero distinguished in fame.

Have-lock.

* * *

(108) At evening by my *whole* you'll think
Of days gone by; and never reckon
That by my *second* my *first* is made,
And by my *first* my *second*.

Fire-light.

* * *

(109) My *first* I may in truth declare—
It's name and nature both is air;
My *second* is a perfect bore,
Yet makes sweet music evermore;
My *whole* in many a crowded street
Lies in its bed beneath your feet!

Gas-pipe.

(110) Look at my happy, joyous *first*,
 With my *second* by her side;
 'Tis strange, but a short time ago
 My *first* was then my *whole*!
 Brides-maid.

* * *

(111) My *whole* to him who has my *first*,
 Is indispensable, I tell you,
 He'll have *second* my *first*,
 And *first* my *second* too.
 Watch-pocket.

* * *

(112) My *first's* a precious stone;
 My *next* a well known tree;
 Or call my first a fruit,
 The *next* a thong will be.
 Whichever way you choose
 This puzzle to divide,
 You still will find my *whole*
 A powder will abide.
 Pearl-ash, or Pear-lash.

* * *

(113) A feeling all persons detest,
 Although 'tis by every one felt,
 By two letters fully expressed,
 By twice two invariably spelt.
 Envy (N V).

* * *

(114) No slave his lord's command obeys
 With more insinuating ways.
 My genius piercing, sharp and bright,
 Wherein the men of wit delight.

The clergy keep me for their ease,
 And turn and wind me as they please.
 A new and wondrous art I show
 Of raising spirits from below ;
 In scarlet some, and some in white,
 They rise, walk round, yet never fright.
 A greater chemist none than I,
 Who, from materials hard and dry,
 Have taught men to extract with skill
 More precious juice than from a still.
 Although I'm often out of case,
 I'm not ashamed to show my face ;
 Though at the tables of the great,
 I near the sideboard take my seat ;
 Yet the plain 'squire, when dinner's done,
 Is never pleased till I make one ;
 He kindly bids me near him stand,
 And often takes me by the hand.
 I twice a day a-hunting go,
 Nor ever fail to seize my foe ;
 And when I have him by the poll,
 I drag him upwards from his hole ;
 Though some are of such stubborn kind,
 I'm forc'd to leave a limb behind.
 I hourly wait some fatal end ;
 For I can break, but scorn to bend.
 Cork-screw.

* * *

- (115) Old Patty Sykes was sitting down
 Beside her humble fire,
 And feeding it with gathered wood,
 To raise its flaming higher.

Poor Patty was a country dame,
 And dearly loved her tea—
 The reason why upon my *first*
 The tea-pot we may see.

Some ducks peeped in the cottage door,
 Which Patty did not note:
 So, growing bold, they waddled in,
 Each with distended throat.

And as upon a three-legged stool
 Her bread and butter lay,
 Each duck began my *second*, and
 Then waddled fast away.

When Patty turned her body round,
 Oh, great was her surprise;
 The bread which stood there just before
 Had vanished from her eyes!

Her cottage stood some miles away
 From every one's abode,
 And not a creature through the day
 E'er passed on Patty's road.

Now Patty's mind was filled with fears
 She fancied that my *whole*
 Had visited her cottage. This
 Brought terrors to her soul.

How many a tale in coward hearts
 Some baseless horror strikes,
 As simple as this of the ducks
 And poor old Patty Sykes.

Hob-goblin.

- (116) Brethren of a wondrous kind,
All of us in one you'll find;
Yet among us all, no brother
Knows one tittle of the other.
We in frequent councils are,
And our marks of things declare
Where, to us unknown, a clerk
Sits and takes them in the dark;
He's the register of all
In our ken, both great and small;
By us forms his laws and rules;
He's our master, we his tools;
Yet we can, with greatest ease,
Turn and wind him as we please.
One of us alone can sleep,
Yet the rest no watch will keep;
But the moment that he closes,
Every brother else reposes.
If wine's brought, or victuals drest,
One enjoys them for the rest.
Pierce us all with wounding steel,
One for all of us will feel.
Though ten thousand cannons roar,
Add to them ten thousand more;
Yet but one of us is found
Who regards the dreadful sound.
If scents are grateful to the smell,
One of us the rest will tell.

The senses.

* * *

- (117) There in the meadow he sits, guarding his
sheep
The day it is warm, and fatigued are his wits,
So he falleth asleep.

Oh, never should a shepherd, while his flocks
are browsing,
And thieves are near, give way to drowsing.

The thief he seeth the shepherd asleep,
So he creeps in the meadow, and near to the
sheep,
There goeth one, and there go two,
(The shepherd will deeply his carelessness
rue);
How many sheep to the thief's lot fell?
Find out my *first*, and that will tell.

The shepherd awoke when the thief had fled;
And, rubbing his eyes, and scratching his head,
He began aloud to whistle and bawl,
For he saw that his flock had become very
small:
And over and over their numbers he reckoned,
As he drove them in and out of my *second*.

Great was his loss, and great was his grief—
What would he give to catch the thief?
Which way had he gone? Could he be over-
taken?
Would regaining the *sheep* save the shepherd's
bacon?
Oh no! for his master, a man severe,
Would send him away with a flea in his ear.

Now that shepherd would give my *whole* of
my *first*
To my *second* to bring the sheep back;
His heart it was ready with grief to burst,
And his mind was on the rack.

Then pray can you tell how many sheep
 The shepherd lost when he fell asleep?
 And how many more that the shepherd would
 give

That he might still with his master live?
 Nine-fold. He would give *eighty-one*.

* * *

(118) Sir Kenneth rode forth from his castle gate,
 On a prancing steed rode he;
 He was my *first* of large estate,
 And he went the Lady Ellen to see.

The Lady Ellen had been wedded five years,
 And a goodly wife proved she;
 She'd a lovely boy, and a lovelier girl.
 And they sported upon their mother's knee.

Sir Kenneth well knew that the lady was true,
 But a crafty foe was he;
 But he hated fiercely her rightful lord,
 That so loved by the beautiful Ellen was he.

Sir Kenneth dismounted and donn'd my *second*,
 And seemed a monk to be;
 And with pious face he knock'd at the gate,
 And asked the Lady Ellen to see.

Then forth from the gate the stout porter he
 came;

"Monk, what can thy errand be?"

"I come on a mission of mercy," he said,—

"The Lady Ellen, pray, where is she?"

"The Lady Ellen at her morning prayers
 Now lowly bends her knee;

Come in, and when she the cloister leaves,
You shall the pious lady see."

The lady forth from the cloister came,
And her lord there chanced to be;
And when the monk in lying accents spoke,
Her lord suspected no monk was he.

So he called a trusty swordsman, and
Bade him by his mistress be;
But to hide himself, with sword in hand,
Where none might him or his bright blade
see.

Sir Kenneth he set aside my *second*,
And dropped upon his knee;
'And the lady she cried for help aloud,
And the swordsman in rushed he.

Sir Kenneth he struggled, but 'twas in vain,
A prisoner soon was he;
Stript of my *whole*, they cast him down,
In a dungeon evermore to be.

Knight-hood.

* * *

(119) The wind howled, and the heaving sea
Touched the clouds, then backward rolled;
And the ship strove most wondrously,
With ten feet water in her hold.

The night it darkened, and my *first*
No sailor's eye could see,
'And ere the day should dawn again,
Where might the sailor be?

Before the rising of the sun
 The ship lay on the strand,
 And silent was the minute gun
 That signalled to the land.

The crew my *second* had secured,
 And they all knelt down to pray,
 And on their upturned faces fell
 The early beam of day.

The howling of the wind had ceased,
 And smooth the waters ran,
 And beautiful appeared my *whole*
 To cheer the heart of man.

Land-scape.

* * *

- (120) Ladies who wish the married state to gain,
 May learn a lesson from this brief charade;
 And proud are we to think our humble muse
 May in such vital matters give them aid.

The Lady B——(we must omit the name)
 Was tall in stature and advanced in years,
 And leading long a solitary life
 Oft grieved her, even to the fall of tears.

At length a neighbor, bachelor, and old,
 But not too old to match the Lady B——,
 Feeling his life monotonous and cold,
 Proposed to her that they should wedded
 be.

Proposed, and was accepted—need we say?
 Even the wedding-day and dress were
 named;

And gossips' tongues had conn'd the matter
o'er—

Some praised the union, others strongly
blamed.

The Lady B——, whose features were my *first*
Was well endowed with beauties that are
rare,

Well read, well spoken—had, indeed, a mind
With which few of the sex called tender can
compare.

But the old bachelor had all the ways
Of one grown fidgety in solitude;
And he at once in matters not his own
Began unseemly and untimely to intrude.

Disliked this dress, that book or song—
Thought the piano wholly out of tune—
Frowned at the cat, hated the pretty poll,
And liked the windows closed in days of
June.

And when the Lady B—— would calmly state
Wherein she deemed his views were in the
wrong,
He took my *second*, slammed the door, and left,
And made his absence often very long.

And longer still these fits of sulking grew,
Till by the post one day a letter came,
Stating that marriage suited not his view,
And that he hoped the Lady B—— would
feel the same!

Preposterous! she who for fifty years
 Had sought a chance and clutched at one
 at last,
 To give it up! Oh, silly bachelor!
 She has you now, and faith, she'll hold you
 fast.

The Lady B—— at once become my *whole*,
 And put the bachelor to most enormous
 trouble:
 Far better had he yielded up himself,
 For what he paid was worth more than his
 double.

My *whole* achieved a victory most complete,
 And 'tis a motto with her to this day,
 "If men make love to ladies, then retreat,
 Let loose the lawyers, and enforce good
 pay."

Plain-tiff.

* * *

(121) Did you ever see Didymus Finnigan Jinks,
 With his smiles, and his frowns, exclamations,
 and winks?
 Oh! never before, since creation, methinks,
 Did the world ever witness the equal of Jinks!

He would get in a rage, and seem ready to
 burst,
 If any to question his strange quibbles durst.
 You must know that he set up to practice my
first,
 But of its professors was really the worst.

So better by far have no dealings, methinks,
With the said Didymus Finnigan Jinks.

His coat it was seedy, and shabby his hat,
His trousers were bare where he frequently sat,
His hair it was long, his head it was flat,
And his voice was a squeal like the mew of a
cat;

So better by far have no dealings, methinks,
With the said Didymus Finnigan Jinks.

One day he came out with my *second* quite
new,

And he seemed to delight to expose to the view
The silk of his hat, and the sole of his shoe;
But he scarce to his neighbors would say,
“How d’ye do?”

And yet there could be no mistaking, methinks,
That this was but Didymus Finnigan Jinks!

Now what made the change in this comical
man,

Who from shabbiness straightway to foppery
ran?

He had found a new victim, and, as ’twas his
plan,

To empty his pockets at once he began;
And many there are who do likewise, methinks,
As well as this Didymus Finnigan Jinks!

Whether my *whole* succeeded or not,
Didymus never troubled a jot;
He always got paid to the last of the “shot,”
And his victims were left to bemoan at their
lot;

So always beware of the smiles, frowns, and
winks

Of men like this Didymus Finnigan Jinks.

Law-suit.

* * *

(122) My *first* was one of high degree—

So thought he.

He fell in love with the Lady Blank,
With her eyes so bright and form so lank.
She was quite the beauty to his mind,
And had two little pages tripping behind.

But Lady Blank was already wed;

And 'twas said

That her lord had made a jealous shock,
So he kept her in with his wonderful lock.
My *second* hung dangling by his side,
With two little chains by which it was tied.

The lady unto her lover spoke:

(A capital joke),

"If you can pick that terrible lock,
Then at my chamber you may knock;
I'll open my door in good disguise,
And you shall behold my two little eyes."

Said the nobleman of high degree,

"Let—me—see!

I know none so clever at these little jobs,
As the Yankee mechanic, John Hobbs, John
Hobbs;

I'll send for him, and he shall undo,
In two little minutes the door to you. .

At night John Hobbs he went to work,
 And with a jerk
 Turn'd back the lock, and called to my *first*
 To see that my *second* the ward had burst—
 When my *first*, with delight he opened the door,
 There came from within a satirical roar,
 For my *first* and my *whole* stood face to face,
 A queer-looking pair in a queer-looking place.
 Don-key.

* * *

(123) Doctor O'Toole was a man of much learning—
 At least so the country folk thought;
 For few of them boasted the pow'r of discern-
 ing
 The truth of the doctrines he taught.

Night after night he provoked a discussion,
 Most unflinchingly urging my *whole*,
 My *second* believed there was none like the
 Doctor
 So clever, from pole unto pole.

I thought that I saw in him but an impostor,
 And determined to scare him away;
 So brought home my *first*, one of the right sort,
 To dispute with O'Toole in an obstinate
 way.

As soon as the Doctor made his appearance,
 In spite of my *second*, my *first* then began;
 And, firm as the Doctor had stuck to my
whole,
 My *first* stuck fast to the man.

Then the Doctor's intrudings no more were
 renewed,
 And my *second* perceived what my *first* had
 well done;
 She no more the Doctor's false teachings
 believed,
 But got rid of my *whole*, and rejoiced in the
 fun.

Dog-ma.

* * *

(124) The night was dark, the night was damp;
 St. Bruno read by his lonely lamp:
 The Fiend dropped in to make a call,
 As he posted away to a fancy ball;
 And "Can't I find," said the Father of Lies,
 "Some present a saint may not despise?"

Wine he brought him, such as yet
 Was ne'er on Pontiff's table set:
 Weary and faint was the holy man,
 But he crossed with a cross the tempter's can,
 And saw, ere my *first* to his parched lip came,
 That it was red with liquid flame.

Jewels he showed him—many a gem
 Fit for a Sultan's diadem:
 Dazzled, I trow, was the anchorite;
 But he told his beads with all his might;
 And instead of my *second* so rich and rare,
 A pinch of worthless dust lay there.

A lady at last he handed in,
 With a bright black eye and a fair white skin;

The stern ascetic flung, 'tis said,
 A ponderous missal at her head;
 She vanished away; and what a smell
 Of my *whole*, she left in the hermit's cell!
 Brim-stone.

* * *

(125) On the casement pane the wind beat high,
 Never a star was in the sky;
 All Kenneth Hold was wrapt in gloom,
 And Sir Everard slept in a haunted room.
 I sat and sang beside his bed;
 Never a single word I said,
 Yet did I scare his slumber;
 'And a fitful light on his eyes full glistened,
 And his cheek grew pale as he lay and listened,
 For he thought and he dreamed that the fiends
 and jays
 Were reckoning o'er his fleeting days,
 And telling out their number.
 Was it my *second's* ceaseless tone?
 On whose small hand he laid his own—
 The hand which trembled in his grasp,
 Was crushed by his convulsive clasp.

Sir Everard did not fear my *first*,
 He had seen it in shapes that men deem worst,
 In many a field and flood;
 Yet, in the darkness of his dread,
 His tongue was parched—his reason fled;
 And he watched, as the lamp burned low and
 dim,
 To see some phantom, great and grim,
 Come dabbled o'er with blood.

Sir Everard kneeled, and strove to pray,
He prayed for the light of early day,
Till terror checked his prayer;
And ever I muttered clear and well,
"Click, click," like a tolling bell,
Till, bound in fancy's magic spell,
Sir Everard fainted there!

Death-watch.

* * *

(126) Seek for my *first* where mountains meet,
Tread well the rugged way;
I've borne the tramp of warriors' feet,
And heard their wild dismay,
When, from my dark and rugged sides
The deadly bullet flew,
And struck deep in the soldier's heart,
To love and valor true.

My *second* every one can own,
In large or small degree;
And when its better time has flown,
How changed and frail are we,
All seek it—but too few secure;
They little heed the way;
But find temptations that allure,
And fall to sin a prey.

When out upon the stormy main
The weary bird is seen,
Seeking a distant home to gain,
Where woods and fields are green;
Where cheering rays and blooming flowers
Shall for a season be,

And music wake the leafy bowers—
The bird is one of *me*.

Pass-age.

* * *

(127) My *first* she was a country lass,
With ruddy cheeks and winsome smiles,
Which caught the eye and won the heart
Of handsome, jovial, Farmer Giles.

My *first* of offers many had,
But she my *second* proved—
For only by the Farmer Giles
Could her heart's love be moved.

The farmer he was well to-do,
My *first* she knew it well,
And also that with poverty
True love will seldom dwell.

You should have seen the farmer when,
Upon his wedding day,
He handed down his happy bride
From out the one-horse shay.

His shirt-front spread a famous frill,
His coat was of deepest blue,
His hat was white, and soft as silk—
And such a polish on his shoe!

But what did most display his taste—
(As Mrs. Giles was heard to say)—
Was this:—he wore a trousers of
My *whole* upon his wedding-day.

Nan-keen.

NOTE: Other rhymed Riddles are to be found under
Charades, beginning on page 240, No. 1240.

SECTION II

NATURE

NATURE

(128) When does a horse catch cold?

When he's a clothes horse, and has to bear many changes.

* * *

(129) Why are dogs and cats like schoolmasters and their pupils?

Because one is of the canine (canin') species, the other the feline (feelin') species.

* * *

(130) Why is a vine like a soldier?

Because it is 'listed, trained, has tendrils and then shoots.

* * *

(131) State the difference between a cow and an old chair.

One gives milk, the other gives way (whey).

* * *

(132) Why is a dog's tail like the heart of a tree?

Because it's farthest from the bark!

* * *

(133) What most nearly resembles a horse's foot?

A mare's.

* * *

(134) What is the difference—the very great, tremendous difference—between the straw laid down for a horse's bed and a tomcat's most excruciating cry?

The one is scat-ter'd in his stable, the other—ye gods—is cat-heard in his mews!

* * *

(135) Why are cats like unskillful surgeons?

Because they mew-till-late and destroy patience (patients).

* * *

(136) Why is a dead doctor like a dead duck?

Because they both have done quacking.

* * *

(137) Were I to see you riding a donkey, what fruit would I instantly be remedied of?

A pair!

* * *

(138) Why is a judge's nose like the middle of the earth?

It's the center of gravity.

* * *

(139) What is most like hen stealing?

Cock-robin', Silly!

* * *

(140) What is it that is a cat and not a cat, and yet is a cat?

A kitten.

* * *

(141) State the difference between happiness on earth and a kitten's head?

On the one there is "too little 'ere below," on the other two little ears above!

(142) When is a teapot like a kitten?
When you're teasin' it (tea's in it).

* * *

(143) What plant is fatal to mice?
Cat-nip.

* * *

(144) Why does a puss purr?
For an obvious pur-puss (purpose).

* * *

(145) Why is green grass like a mouse?
Because the cattle eat it (cat'll eat it).

* * *

(146) By what female name would an egg, bad and
stale, object to being called?
Addle-laid.

* * *

(147) Why have chickens no fear of a future state?
Because they have their next world in this (necks
twirled in this).

* * *

(148) Why ought cocks to be the neatest of birds?
Because they always have their combs with them.

* * *

(149) What is that which makes everything visible,
yet is itself unseen?
Light.

* * *

(150) What is the difference between a horse who,
being entered for a race, is withdrawn, and one that
starts in a race and is beaten?

One fails to start, the other starts to fail.

(151) What is that thing and the name of a bird
without which we would die?

Swallow.

* * *

(152) Why is an egg like a colt?

Because it isn't fit for use until it is broken.

* * *

(153) What is the oldest tree in America?

The elder tree.

* * *

(154) Why does lightning turn milk sour?

Because it doesn't know how to conduct itself.

* * *

(155) What comes after the sweets at dinner?
Cheese? Yes—and now what comes after the cheese?

A mouse.

* * *

(156) Why is the dove considered cautious?

Because he minds his peas and coos.

* * *

(157) What part of the lion is like a new-born in-
fant?

The tail, because it was never seen before.

* * *

(158) Why does a duck put its head under water,
and why does it bring it up again?

For divers reasons and for sun-dry (sundry) causes.

* * *

(159) What old game do frogs play, aside from leap-
frog?

Croaky (croquet)!

(160) What would a pig do that wished to build himself an habitation?

Tie a knot in his tail, and call it a pig's tie (pigsty).

* * *

(161) Should that same pig wish to demolish his domicile, what quotation would he make?

"I could a tale unfold."

* * *

(162) Why are pigs more intelligent than humans?
Because they nose (knows) everything.

* * *

(163) How do you spell blind pig with two letters?
P G without an I.

* * *

(164) When does a farmer have the best opportunity of overlooking his pigs?

When he has a sty in his eye!

* * *

(165) What makes a pet dog wag his tail, when he sees his master?

Because he's got one to wag.

* * *

(166) When is a cigar like a shoulder of pork?
When it is smoked!

* * *

(167) What is the difference between earth and sea?
One is dirty, the other tidy.

* * *

(168) What is that which lives in winter, dies in summer, and grows with its roots upwards?

An icicle.

(169) When is a fruit stalk like a strong swimmer?
When it stems the currants (currents)!

* * *

(170) Why is a chrysalis like a hot roll?
Because it's the grub that makes the butter fly!

* * *

(171) Why does the sun rise in the east?
Because the (y)east makes everything rise.

* * *

(172) What four letters is a honey-producing insect like when it has outlived its usefulness?
A B C D (a bee, seedy).

* * *

(173) When is a wall like a fish?
When it is scaled!

* * *

(174) Why is a specimen of handwriting like a dead pig?
Because it is done with the pen.

* * *

(175) What is the difference between a carriage wheel and a carriage horse?

One goes better when it is tired, the other doesn't.

* * *

(176) Why is the leading horse in a wagon team like the acceptor of a note?

Because he's the end horse, sir (endorser).

* * *

(177) What is that which a fox has and the *hare* most wants?

A brush.

(178) Why is the flight of the eagle a most unpleasant sight to witness?

Because it's an eye sore (an 'igh soar). (A bit English!)

* * *

(179) Why do little birds in their nests agree?

For fear of falling out!

* * *

(180) What's the difference between a bee and a donkey?

One gets all the honey, the other gets all the whacks!

* * *

(181) Why is a marriage with a deceased wife's sister like the wedding of two fish?

Because it's a finny tie (affinity).

* * *

(182) What part of a fish weighs most?

The scales! (Most often, of course!)

* * *

(183) What part of a fish is like the end of a book?

The fin-is!

* * *

(184) On what side of a church does a yew tree grow?

The out side!

* * *

(185) Why is a field of grass like a person older than yourself?

Because it's past-your-age (pasturage).

* * *

(186) Why is a boy like a puppy?

Because he's a younker (young cur).

(187) What is the difference between a dancer and a duck?

One goes quick on her legs, the other goes "Quack" on her eggs.

* * *

(188) When does an eagle turn carpenter?

When he soars (saws) across the woods and plains (planes).

* * *

(189) Why is a spider a good correspondent?

Because he drops a line by every post.

* * *

(190) Why is a waiter like a race horse?

Because he runs for cups and plates and steaks (stakes).

* * *

(191) Why are lollipops like race horses?

Because the more you lick them the faster they go.

* * *

(192) How can you double up a sheep without hurting it?

When you fold it. (Sheep-folds, you know!)

* * *

(193) Why are circus horses such slow goers?

Because they are taught-'orses (tortoises).

* * *

(194) What parts of what animal are like the spring and autumn gales?

The equine hocks (equinox).

- (195) Which eat the most grass, white sheep or black?
White, there are more of them.

* * *

- (196) Why should white cows always be milked first?
Because it's no use milking cows when they are done
(dun).

* * *

- (197) Why are little birds melancholy in the morn-
ing?
Because their little bills are all over dew (overdue).

* * *

- (198) Why will scooping out a turnip be a noisy
process?
Because it makes it hollow.

* * *

- (199) When is sugar like a pig's tooth?
When it's in a hog's head.

* * *

- (200) What is the difference between a chicken that
can't hold its head up and seven days?
One is a weak one, the other, one week!

* * *

- (201) What kind of a hen lays the longest?
A dead one——!

* * *

- (202) Why are bookkeepers like hens?
Because they have to scratch for a living.

* * *

- (203) What is the best way to hide a bear, no mat-
ter how big, the bigger the better?
Skin him!

- (204) What trees has fire no affect upon?
Ashes, when burned they're ashes still.

* * *

- (205) When is a charade like a fir tree?
When you get a deal bored (board) from its length.

* * *

- (206) What did the rose say to the sun?
Blow me!

* * *

- (207) Then what did the sun say to the rose?
You be blowed!

* * *

- (208) When is music like vegetables?
When there are two beats (beets) to the measure.

* * *

- (209) How many peas in a pint?
One P.

* * *

- (210) Why are potatoes and corn like certain sinners of old?

Because, having eyes, they see not, and having ears, they hear not!

* * *

- (211) Why would an owl be offended at your calling him a pheasant?

Because you would be making game of him!

* * *

- (212) Which would you rather, that a lion ate you or a tiger?

Why, you would rather the lion ate the tiger, of course!

(213) When does a leopard change his spots?

When he moves from one spot to another!

* * *

(214) What is the most remarkable animal in the farm yard?

A pig, because he is killed and then cured!

* * *

(215) Which is the heaviest animal in creation?

A le(a)d horse.

* * *

(216) What animal is turned into a large one by being beheaded?

Fox-ox.

* * *

(217) Why is a cent like a cow?

Because it has a head and a tail and two sides!

* * *

(218) Why does a salmon die before it lives?

Because its existence is ova (over) before it comes to life.

* * *

(219) What does a salmon breeder do to a salmon's ova?

He makes an egg-salmon-nation of them (examination).

* * *

(220) What ova do we frequently have for breakfast?

The ova that is ham and eggs (is salmon eggs).

* * *

(221) What kind of a cat may be found in every library?

Cat-alogue.

- (222) Why is an orange like a church steeple?
Because we have a peel from it.

* * *

- (223) What is the difference between a beehive and a diseased potato?

None at all, as the one is a beholder (bee holder) and the other a spectator (specked tater).

* * *

- (224) What's the difference between a piece of honeycomb and a black eye?

One is produced by a laboring bee, the other by a be-laboring!

For further riddles on this subject see Nos. 8, 16, 17, 21, 23, 30, 40, 44, 57, 63, 225, 246, 248, 249, 265, 269, 289, 307, 546, 575, 601, 626, 642, 649, 656, 664, 672, 708, 716, 719, 773, 798, 870, 872, 1004, 1005, 1054, 1100, 1101, 1122, 1153, 1168, 1171, 1191, 1203, 1207, 1215, 1228, 1232, 1234.

SECTION III
HISTORICAL

HISTORICAL

(225) Why was the reptile that stung Cleopatra like the letter H?

Because it was an asp-irate!

* * *

(226) What letter made Queen Bess mind her P's and Q's?

R made her (Armada).

* * *

(227) If a row of houses were stripped by a cyclone, what two historical personages would they name?

Wat Tyler—Will Rufus (What tiler will roof us?).

* * *

(228) Why was the Emperor Napoleon II like a retired waiter?

Because he remembered Ham and when he had cut it!

* * *

(229) Why had the "Dark Continent" no terrors for the explorer, Stanley?

Because he "made light" of it.

* * *

(230) Why is a portrait of Queen Elizabeth like a wager which is neither lost nor won?

Because it is a drawn Bet!

(231) What Egyptian official would a little boy mention if he were to call his mother to see something wonderful?

"Mammy, look!" (Mameluke).

* * *

(232) Who was the most wretched of all the murderers of Julius Cæsar?

The miserable Cinna (sinner).

* * *

(233) What was the difference between the Emperor of Russia and a beggar?

One issued manifestoes; the other manifested toes without 'is shoes (issues)!

* * *

(234) What historical character would a person mention if he asked the servant to put coal on the fire?

Philip the Great (fill up the grate).

* * *

(235) Why are volunteers like Lord Nelson?

Because the last thing he did was to die for his country, and that is about the last thing the volunteers intend doing!

* * *

(236) Why did the population of Rome decrease just before the fall of the Empire?

Because the Romans had ceased to practice husbandry!

* * *

(237) Why are the Royal Academicians like the proverbial lilies?

Because Solomon, in all his glory, was not R. A.'d (arrayed) like one of these!

(238) Why would a fat Member of Parliament, were he eaten uncooked by cannibals, be like Napoleon?

Because he would be served as an M.P. raw (emperor)!

* * *

(239) What was at one time the most fashionable cap in Paris?

The mob—without a crown!

* * *

(240) Why is the Delaware River like an ink stand?

Because it was entered by a Penn.

* * *

(241) What Indian battle tried the metal (mettle) of the British?

The battle of Assay(e).

* * *

(242) How many soldiers fought in the battle of Aliwal?

Why, there were six (Sikhs) and the British, one (won)!

* * *

(243) Who was the first postman?

Cadmus, he carried letters from Phœnicia to Greece.

* * *

(244) What three letters give the name of a famous Roman general?

C P O (Scipio).

* * *

(245) Why did Louis Philippe leave his umbrella behind in Paris?

Because when he left the rain (reign) was over.

(246) When did the English misjudge cattle?

When the Pope sent them a bull and they thought it
a bore (boar)!

* * *

(247) Why should Columbus be distinguished as an
astronomer rather than an explorer?

Because he discovered a whole New World.

* * *

(248) What fruit is like a Guy Fawkes?

An F I G (effigy).

* * *

(249) Why was Martin Luther like a dyspeptic
robin?

Because the Diet of Wurms did not agree with him!

* * *

(250) What Tory do the Whigs want on their side?
Vic-tory!

* * *

(251) What went before Queen Mary, and followed
King William to the end?

The letter M.

* * *

(252) Why was the Shah of Persia, when he visited
England, considered the greatest card-player in the
world?

Well, it's like this: gentlemen left their clubs, work-
men threw up their spades, and the ladies were within
an inch of losing their hearts when he displayed his
diamonds!

* * *

(253) What is the difference between two leaders
of the Fifth Century who rose among the Saxons, and
two leaders that appear everywhere to-day?

The former were Hengist and Horsa, the latter are engines and horses.

* * *

(254) Why is a fight in a dirty alley like a celebrated battle?

Because it's the battle of A-gin-court!

* * *

(255) What did they find under the "Maine"?

A horse's neck. (Try spelling it "Mane.")

* * *

(256) What is the difference between Hunyady and a half-starved countryman?

One is the man of Hungary, the other a hungry man!

* * *

(257) What was the difference between the Federal Army during the Civil War and the Army of the Revolution?

In one case the army was bound to defend Washington, in the other Washington was bound to defend the army!

* * *

(258) Why was the Republican Party during the Civil War like Oliver Cromwell, "the Blacksmith"?

Because it broke asunder the chains of despotism and added a link on (A. Lincoln) to history.

* * *

(259) Why was it impossible for the Federal Government to grant the request of the Southerners?

Because it is impossible to leave children in arms, alone!

(260) Why was General McClellan like Charles Dickens?

Because he was the author of "Great Expectations"!

* * *

(261) Why were Jeff Davis's letters of marque like secrets?

Because they were for privateers (private ears).

* * *

(262) When is an army like an entry clerk?
When it is ready to charge!

* * *

(263) Why was President Lincoln like a shipwrecked sailor?

Because he looked to Seward (seaward).

* * *

(264) Why will Americans have more cause to remember the letter S than any other in the alphabet?

Because it was the beginning of Secession and the end of Jeff Davis!

* * *

(265) When is a hen in the courtyard like the Southern Confederacy?

When it is trying to see seed (secede)!

* * *

(266) Show that a simple typographical error was the cause of the defeat of the Austrians at Sadowa.

They sent for reserves and got reverses.

* * *

(267) Why was William Tell like a post?

Because they couldn't get a bough (bow) out of him.

(268) Which one of the Seven Wonders of the World is like a locomotive engine?

The Colossus of Rhodes (roads).

* * *

(269) Why was Blackstone like an Irish vegetable?

Forsooth, he was a common tater.

* * *

(270) There has been but one king crowned in England since the Conquest, and which king was he?

James I. He was the King of Scotland before he was the King of England.

* * *

(271) What ancient king was often literally in the mouths of his contemporaries?

A-gag.

* * *

(272) What was the difference between Noah's Ark and Joan of Arc?

One was made of wood, the other was Maid of Orleans.

* * *

(273) What is the difference between a middle-aged cooper and a trooper of the Middle Ages?

The one used to put a head on his cask, the other put a casque (cask) on his head.

* * *

(274) When Charles the First was beheaded, off what dish did the executioner dine, and where?

He took a chop at the King's Head.

* * *

(275) Why is the Fourth of July like Oysters?

Because we can't enjoy them without crackers.

- (276) Why was General Washington childless?
Because a nation might call him father.

* * *

- (277) Why was the last Emperor of Russia like a greedy schoolboy on Christmas Day?
Because he stayed Hung(a)ry and longed for Turkey.

* * *

- (278) What English king had a naturally great aversion to laundresses?
John, because of his tremendous losses in the Wash.

* * *

- (279) What's the difference between Charles Kean and Jonah?
One was brought up at Eton, the other was eaten and brought up!

* * *

- (280) Why was Oliver Cromwell like Charles Kean?
Because he was Kean after Charles.

* * *

- (281) When was Napoleon I most shabbily dressed?
When he was out at Elba (elbow).

* * *

- (282) Why is the palace of the Louvre the cheapest ever erected?
Because it was built for one sovereign and finished for another.

* * *

- (283) What young women won the battle of Salamis?
The Miss Tocles (Themistocles).

(284) Why did the Highlanders do most execution at Waterloo?

Because every man had one *kilt* before the battle began! (Slightly Irish!)

* * *

(285) Why was Louis Philippe like a very wet day?

Because he rained (reigned) as long as he could, and then mizzled!

* * *

(286) When Louis Philippe was deposed, he lost less than any of his subjects; how was this?

Because, while he only lost a crown, they lost a sovereign.

* * *

(287) What piece of music did the Romans, at the time of the early Christians, most enjoy?

A stab at martyr (stabat mater)!

* * *

(288) Why is William Penn, the Quaker, like a codicil?

Because he is appended (a-Penn-dead).

* * *

(289) What fruit trees resemble the knights of olden times?

Those that cast down gages.

* * *

(290) Why was Queen Elizabeth greater than Napoleon?

One was a wonder, the other, a Tudor!

* * *

(291) What king made the first beef-tea?

Henry the Eighth, when he dissolved the Papal Bull.

(292) Why were Queen Victoria's chickens quarrelsome?

Because they were Vic's hens (vixens).

* * *

(293) When did Russia resemble the sea?

When all her nobles were swells, and all her people serfs (surfs).

* * *

(294) What was Louis Napoleon's great cabbage? Savoy (and Nice).

* * *

(295) Why was the Emperor of Russia considered a flirt?

Because not content with Mol-davia, he went after Bess-arabia and that Gal-icia.

* * *

(296) Why should Denmark be an eminently religious country?

Because it has had no many "Christians" for kings.

* * *

(297) Say in one word what Mr. Gladstone loved, what he disliked, what he would have been happy to do, and what many people thought he should have been in?

Reform-a-tory.

* * *

(298) Why did William Tell shudder when he shot the apple from his son's head?

Because it was an arrow escape for his child.

(299) What great Scotchman would you name if you heard a footman's summons at the door?

John Knox! (Provided his name weren't Albert.)

* * *

(300) Why is a worn out shoe like ancient Greece?
Because it once had a Solon (sole on).

* * *

(301) Why couldn't Bismark insure his life?
Because no one was clever enough to make out his policy.

For further riddles on this subject, see Nos. 22, 106, 107, 225, 319, 322, 619, 633, 637, 731, 736, 741, 1129, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1198, 1199, 1201, 1210.

SECTION IV
GRAMMATICAL

GRAMMATICAL

(302) What word is it which, by changing a single letter, becomes its own opposite?

United; untied.

* * *

(303) What is the difference between a good and bad governess?

One teaches misses, the other misteaches.

* * *

(304) In what sort of syllables ought a parrot to be taught to speak?

In polly-silly-bills.

* * *

(305) Why does a blow leave a blue mark?

Because blow, when made perfect, makes blew.

* * *

(306) As we are told that A was not always the first letter of the alphabet, when was B the first?

In the days of No-a (Noah).

* * *

(307) Why is A like a honeysuckle?

Because a B follows it.

* * *

(308) Why does B come before C?

Because we must B before we can C.

* * *

(309) Why is the letter W like scandal?

Because it makes ill will.

(310) Spell enemy in three letters.

No, not N M E but F O E.

* * *

(311) Which are the two most disagreeable letters if you get too much of them?

K N (Cayenne).

* * *

(312) When is a trunk like two letters of the alphabet?

When it's M T.

* * *

(313) What word of one syllable, if you take two letters from it, remains a word of two syllables?

Plague, ague.

* * *

(314) Why is the letter E a gloomy and discontented vowel?

Because, though never out of health and pocket, it never appears in spirits.

* * *

(315) What is that which is always in-visible, yet never out of sight?

The letter S.

* * *

(316) What is it which occurs twice in a moment, once in a minute, and not once in a thousand years?

The letter M.

* * *

(317) Why is A like twelve o'clock?

Middle of day, you know!

(318) Why is a false friend like the letter P?

Because always the first in pity, he is yet the last in help.

* * *

(319) Why is the letter P like a Roman Emperor?

Because it's Nero (near o).

* * *

(320) Why is the letter D like a squalling child?

Because it makes Ma mad.

* * *

(321) Why is the letter T like an amphibious animal?

Because it lives both in earth and water.

* * *

(322) What letter of the Greek Alphabet did the ex-king Otho probably last think of on leaving Athens?

Oh!-my-crown (omicron).

* * *

(323) What is the difference between a correspondent and a co-respondent?

One is a man that does write, the other a man that does wrong.

* * *

(324) When is the letter L like an unparalleled piece of generosity?

When it enables a lady to make over a lover.

* * *

(325) Why is the English grammar like torture?

Because it is taught yer (torture).

* * *

(326) What word is it which expresses two things all men wish to get, the one bringing the other, but

which if they get them the one bringing the other, they are unhappy?

Miss-fortune.

* * *

(327) What word of three syllables combines twenty-six letters?

Alphabet.

* * *

(328) How can you, by only changing the pronunciation of a word, turn mirth into crime?

By making man's laughter into manslaughter!

* * *

(329) Which word in the English language contains the greatest number of letters?

Disproportionableness!

* * *

(330) What word of six letters admits of five successive elisions, leaving at each abbreviation a well-known word?

Brandy-brand-bran-ran-an-a.

* * *

(331) What word is composed of five letters, from which if you take two one remains?

Stone: one.

* * *

(332) Name two English words, one of which, being of one syllable only, shall contain as many letters as the other of five syllables?

Strength-Ideality.

(333) What words may be pronounced quicker and shorter by adding syllables to them?

Quick and short.

* * *

(334) Why is a glass-blower most likely to set the alphabet off at a gallop?

Because he can make a D-canter.

* * *

(335) What letter in the Dutch alphabet will name an English lady of title?

A Dutch-S.

* * *

(336) Why is O the noisiest of all the vowels?

Because you can't make a horrid loud noise without it, whilst all the others are in-au-d-ble.

* * *

(337) There are only two words in our language wherein the five vowels follow in successive order. Which are they?

Facetious and Abstemious!

* * *

(338) Why is I the luckiest of all the vowels?

Because it is the center of bliss, while E is in Hell, and all the others in Purgatory.

* * *

(339) What must all the letters of the alphabet be in order to possess infinite sagacity?

Wise (Y's).

* * *

(340) Why is the letter N like a buck's tail?

Because it's the end of venison.

(341) What are those things which, though they appear twice in every day, and twice in every week, yet are only seen twice in a year?

Vowels!

* * *

(342) What one word in the alphabet will spell potato?

The letter O, put them down until you have put eight o's.

* * *

(343) What word of six letters contains six words besides itself, without transposing a letter?

Herein-he-her-here-ere-rein-in.

* * *

(344) Is there a word in the English language that contains all the vowels?

Yes, unquestionably!

* * *

(345) Why is quizzing like the letter D on horseback?
It is D-riding.

* * *

(346) I am the center of gravity, hold a capital situation in Vienna, and as I am foremost in every victory, am allowed by all to be invaluable. Always out of tune, yet ever in voice, invisible, though clearly seen in the midst of a river. I have three associates in vice, and could name three who are in love with me. Still it is in vain you seek me, for I have long been in heaven, and even now lie embalmed in the grave.

The letter V.

(347) There is a word of three syllables, from which you may take five letters and a male will remain; if you take away three, a great man will appear; and the whole word will show what Joan of Arc was!

He, her, hero, heroine.

* * *

(348) Take away one letter from me, and I murder; take away two and I shall probably die, if my whole does not save me?

Kill-ill-skill.

* * *

(349) Why is the letter N like a pig?

Because it makes a sty nasty.

* * *

(350) Give a good definition of can't.

Spirits of whine!

* * *

(351) Why is a school teacher like the letter C?

Because she forms lasses into classes.

* * *

(352) Give the positive, comparative and superlative degrees of the adjective solemn, with illustrations of the meaning of the word.

Solemn, being married; solemnner, not being able to get married; solemnest, wanting to be unmarried when you are married!

* * *

(353) Give the positive, comparative and superlative degrees of getting on in the world.

Get on; get honour; get honest.

- (354) Why is an ex-pensive widow like the letter X?
Because she is never in-consolable!

* * *

- (355) Why are young ladies poor grammarians?
Because you seldom find one that can decline matrimony.

* * *

- (356) What part of speech are shopkeepers most anxious to dispose of?
Articles.

* * *

- (357) Why is the letter F like death?
Because it makes all fall.

* * *

- (358) What was the first bet ever made?
The alphabet.

* * *

- (359) Why is the letter Y like a young spendthrift?
Because it makes pa pay.

* * *

- (360) Why isn't a girl a noun?
Because a lass (alas) is an interjection.

* * *

- (361) Why is the letter E like death?
Because it is the end of life.

* * *

- (362) When is a man like the letter B?
When he is in bed.

* * *

- (363) Which is the longest letter in the alphabet?
An L (ell).

- (364) Why is the letter S like smart repartee?
Because it begins and ends in sauciness.

* * *

- (365) Why are teeth like verbs?
Because they are regular, irregular and defective.

* * *

- (366) Why are old bachelors poor grammarians?
Because when asked to conjugate, they invariably decline.

* * *

- (367) What is always at the head of fashion, yet
always out of date?
The letter F.

For further riddles on this subject, see Nos. 13, 25, 32, 33, 34, 65, 93, 112, 163, 172, 209, 225, 226, 244, 251, 529, 532, 733, 739, 851, 888, 924, 947, 1003, 1127.

SECTION V
GEOGRAPHICAL

GEOGRAPHICAL

(368) Why is Great Britain like Palestine?

Because it's the Holy Land (whole island).

* * *

(369) What river is ever without a beginning and ending?

S-ever-n.

* * *

(370) Which is the coldest river?

The ice is (Isis).

* * *

(371) Why is a pleasure trip to Egypt only fit for old gentlemen?

Because it's a see-Nile thing to do.

* * *

(372) What is the difference between a native of Ceylon and a spinster?

One is a single he (Cingalee), the other a single she.

* * *

(373) What is more foolish than sending coals to Newcastle?

Sending milk to Cowes!

* * *

(374) What is a man like who is in the middle of the Hudson River and can't swim?

Like to be drowned!

(375) When do ill-fitting trousers remind you of two French ports?

When they are too loose (Toulouse) and too long (Toulon).

* * *

(376) Why is a fender like Westminster Abbey?

Because it contains the ashes of the grate (great)!

* * *

(377) Why need France never fear an inundation?

Because there the water is always *l'eau* (low).

* * *

(378) Why is the Brooklyn Bridge like merit?

Because it is so often passed over!

* * *

(379) Why is a Zulu lady like a prophet?

Because she has very little on her (honor) in her own country.

* * *

(380) Why is China a desirable country to select a husband in?

Because she can go from Peking (picking) to Chusan (choosing)

* * *

(381) Why is the river at Liverpool always muddy?

Because "the quality of Mersey is not strained."

* * *

(382) Which of the West India Islands does a confectioner resemble?

Jamaica (jam-maker).

* * *

(383) What islands ought to be good singers?

The Canaries!

(384) Out of what English river could you make bran?

The Usk (husk).

* * *

(385) Where lies the path of duty?

Through the Customs House.

* * *

(386) What islands are the most prosperous?

The Fortunate Islands.

* * *

(387) Where would you send a man to get an appetite?

To Hungary!

* * *

(388) Why is Ireland likely to become the richest country in the world?

Because its capital is always doublin' (Dublin).

* * *

(389) What sea reminds one of a pudding?

Battersea.

* * *

(390) Why have we reason to doubt the existence of the Giant's Causeway?

Because Ireland abounds with shamrocks.

* * *

(391) Of what part of London does a crippled man remind us?

Of Cripplegate (cripple gait).

* * *

(392) What are the greatest obstacles to a Russian invasion of Turkey?

The balkin' (Balkan) mountains.

(393) Why is a person bathing in the river at Paris like a madman?

Because he's in Seine (insane).

* * *

(394) Why should Africa rightly be considered first among the continents?

Because it bears the palm.

* * *

(395) What square in New York puts you in mind of a tooth which has pained for a long while?

Long Acre (long acher).

* * *

(396) What island is nearest heaven?

The Isle of Skye (sky).

* * *

(397) What islands would form a cheerful luncheon party?

Friendly Society, a Sandwich, and Madeira.

* * *

(398) What sea would a man most like to be in on a wet day?

Adriatic (a dry attic).

* * *

(399) What is the difference between Nineveh and a donkey boy?

One is in Assyria, the other is an ass-hurrier!

* * *

(400) Why is the wick of a candle like the city of Athens?

Because it's in the middle of Greece.

(401) What city is like an habitual drunkard?

Berlin; because it is always on the Spree.

* * *

(402) Why do so many people in China travel on foot?

Because there is but one coach in China (Cochin China).

* * *

(403) Why are the actions of men like great rivers?

Because we see the course they take, but not the source from whence they spring.

* * *

(404) Why is the steeple of Saint Paul's church like Ireland?

Because there is a bell fast (Belfast) in it.

* * *

(405) What is the most difficult river on which to get a boat?

Arno, because there Arno boats there!

* * *

(406) What river is that which runs between two seas?

The Thames—between Chel-sea and Batter-sea.

* * *

(407) Why is the Ohio river like a drunken man?

Because it takes in too much Monongahela at Pittsburgh, runs past Wheeling, gets a licking opposite Cincinnati, and falls below Louisville.

* * *

(408) Which are the lightest men—Scotchmen, Irishmen, or Englishmen?

In Ireland there are men of Cork; in Scotland men of Ayr; but in England, on the Thames, they have lighter-men!

* * *

(409) What part of Spain does a cat isolated on the hearth-rug resemble?

Cat-alone-here (Catalonia). (Use Southern accent!)

* * *

(410) What is the difference between an Oxonian and an Arab?

One gets up the dates to win the palm, the other gets up the palm to win the dates.

* * *

(411) What is the difference between an Hussar's hanging jacket, and two ancient cities in Syria?

One is attire, and on one side; the other is Tyre and one Sidon.

* * *

(412) Why is the Isthmus of Suez like the first u in cucumber?

Because it's between two seas.

* * *

(413) If a young man asked his sweetheart to take one kind of wine while he had another, what two countries would he name?

Port-you-gal, I'll have white (Portugal—Isle of Wight).

* * *

(414) If all the seas were dried up, what would Neptune say?

I really haven't a ocean (a notion).

(415) How many young ladies would it take to reach from New York to Philadelphia?

About one hundred, a miss being as good as a mile.

* * *

(416) Why is a young man engaged to a young lady like a person sailing for France?

He is going to Havre!

* * *

(417) Why do the recriminations of married couples resemble the sound of waves on the shore?

Because they are the murmurs of the tide (tied).

* * *

(418) Why is Canada like courtship?

It borders on the U. S. A.

* * *

(419) Why is it that you cannot starve in the Desert of Sahara?

Because of the sand-which-is there, to say nothing of the Pyramids of Cheops.

* * *

(420) When is a bag like a certain Russian soldier?

When it is a course sack (Cossack).

* * *

(421) What's the difference between an Irishman frozen to death, and a Highlander on a mountain-peak in January?

One is kilt with the cold, the other cold with the kilt.

* * *

(422) What world catastrophe would happen if a colored waiter dropped a platter with a turkey upon it?

The humiliation of Africa, the fall of Turkey, the destruction of China, and the overflow of Greece.

* * *

(423) What city do artists make most drawings of?
Cork!

* * *

(424) Why should we pity the Esquimaux?
Because they are born to blubber, to be-wail fishing,
and to walk when the snow's frozen (nose's frozen).

* * *

(425) When is an aviator under two flags?
When he come down a Russian (a-rushin'), and
clings to a Pole.

* * *

(426) When is a Welshman like a beggar?
When he goes through Menai Straits (many
straights)!

* * *

(427) What is the difference between the North Pole
and the South Pole?
All the difference in the world!

For further riddles on this subject see 4, 33, 240,
720, 728, 729, 734, 821, 824, 914, 1024, 1202, 1230,
1235, 1236, 1237.

SECTION VI
THE ETERNAL FEMININE

THE ETERNAL FEMININE

(528) When is a young woman a poacher?

When she nets her hair. (Hare.)

* * *

(529) Why is a young lady dependent on the letter Y?

Without it she would be a young lad.

* * *

(530) Why does the butcher's wife always keep the books?

Because the business is a joint affair.

* * *

(531) Why is a young woman like a violin?

Because she often comes in contact with a beau

* * *

(532) What three letters turns a girl into a woman?

A G E.

* * *

(533) If a taxi is called by a woman that's dieting, how can the driver be said to lose?

He has a reduced fare (fair).

* * *

(534) What is meant by an Academy of Design?

A Young Ladies' Seminary.

* * *

(535) Why should old maids stop at home in fair weather?

Well, it's like this, it might spoil their complexions and then too, society does not approve their having a little sun an' air ('till they are married).

* * *

(536) When are two flappers heartily embracing and kissing, obeying a Christian precept?

They are doing unto each other as they would that men should do unto them.

* * *

(537) What do you suppose a kiss is?

A receipt given you by a flapper on paying your addresses.

* * *

(538) When are kisses sweetest?

When sirup-titiously obtained.

* * *

(539) What blossoms 'tween her nose and chin?

Give up? Tu-lips!

* * *

(540) Why ought flappers to be mindful of their P's and Q's?

To enable them to discover the difference between being polite and quiet, and being pert and quarrelsome.

* * *

(541) What is the difference between a young girl and an old hat?

One has feeling and the other has felt!

* * *

(542) Why do young women in love like the circus?
Because they have an itchin' for the ring.

(543) Why should a straw hat never be raised to a lady?

Because no matter how much appreciated it is never felt.

* * *

(544) Why does a rich lady act prudently by marrying a penniless man?

Because she husbands her resources!

* * *

(545) Why is a woman's beauty like a ten-dollar bill?

Because once changed it soon goes!

* * *

(546) What herb is most ruinous to a woman's beauty?

Thyme!

* * *

(547) When is a superb woman like a piece of bread?

When given as a toast.

* * *

(548) Why are all good intentions like fainting women?

Because all they want is carrying out!

* * *

(549) When may a woman be pronounced beyond recovery?

When she is speechless and can only chatter with her teeth.

* * *

(550) What is the difference between some women and their looking glasses?

They talk without reflecting, and the mirrors reflect without talking!

- (551) When is a girl like a mirror?
When she's a good looking (g)lass!

* * *

- (552) What is the difference between a young girl
of sixteen and an old one of sixty?

One is happy and careless, the other cappy and hairless.

* * *

- (553) What do ladies look for when they go to
church?

The Sams (Psalms) and the hims (hymns).

* * *

- (554) Why ought women to be employed in the post
office?

Because they know how to manage the males (mails).

* * *

- (555) Why is a ship like a woman?

Because she is often tender to a man-of-war; often
running after a smack; often attached to a big buoy;
and frequently making up to a pier!

* * *

- (556) Why is a demure young woman like an ocean
liner?

Because she pays no attention to the swells that fol-
low her!

* * *

- (557) Why are flappers like hinges?

Because they are things to a-door (adore).

* * *

- (558) On what day of the year do women talk least?
The shortest day!

(559) Why does a young lady prefer her mother's fortune to her father's?

Because, though she likes patrimony, she prefers matrimony.

* * *

(560) Why is a deceptive woman like a seamstress?
Because she is not what she seems.

* * *

(561) Why are young women born deaf sure to be more exemplary than others not so afflicted?
Because they have never erred (heard) in their lives.

* * *

(562) Why are the affections of women doubtful?
Because they are always miss-givings!

* * *

(563) Why do girls kiss each other, and men not?
Because girls have nothing better to kiss and men have!

* * *

(564) Why would young women of the present day make good pugilists?
Because they are eager to enter the ring at 16, and are willing to make a match with a man twice their own size any day!

* * *

(565) What becomes every woman?
A blush.

* * *

(566) Why is a blush an anomaly?
Because a woman who blushes is admired for her cheek.

(567) When is a flapper not a flapper?
When she's a sweet tart (sweetheart).

* * *

(568) When is a young woman like an acrobat?
When she shows her sleight of hand by refusing a young man.

* * *

(569) What is a young woman constantly rejecting a suitor?
Too no-ing by half!

* * *

(570) Why are some women like facts?
Because they are stubborn things.

* * *

(571) What is the difference between a mouse and a young woman?
One harms the cheese, the other charms the hes.

* * *

(572) How does a butcher differ from a vamp.
One kills to dress, the other dresses to kill.

* * *

(573) Why is it impossible for a pretty girl to be candid?
She can't be plain.

* * *

(574) And now tell us, why do girls resemble their own watches?
Because they are pretty to look at, have sweet faces, and delicate hands, but are difficult to regulate once they are set going.

(575) Why are good women like ivy?

Because the greater the ruin the closer they cling.

For further riddles on this subject, see 29, 62, 68, 99, 110, 326, 354, 355, 360, 369, 515, 580, 588, 595, 613, 657, 684, 690, 707, 767, 818, 824, 834, 851, 894, 910, 919, 921, 922, 929, 930, 934, 968, 974, 1013, 1094, 1102, 1220.

SECTION VII
BIBLICAL

BIBLICAL

(576) What three words did Adam use when he introduced himself to Eve, which read backwards and forwards the same?

Madam, I'm Adam.

* * *

(577) At what time of the day was Adam born?

A little before Eve.

* * *

(578) How were Adam and Eve prevented from gambling?

If you must know, their pair o'dice was taken away from them.

* * *

(579) What stone should have been placed at the gate of Eden after the expulsion?

Adam ain't in (adamantine).

* * *

(580) Check up on this! Why was Eve made?

For Adam's Express Company.

* * *

(581) Now then, who was Jonah's tutor?

Why, the whale that brought him up!

* * *

(582) Why was the giant Goliath very much a-stone-ished when David hit him with a stone?

Surely such a thing had never entered his head before.

(583) What are the two smallest things mentioned in the Bible?

The widow's mite and the wicked flea.

* * *

(584) Why was Adam the inventor of the radio?

'Cause he made a loudspeaker out of his spare-parts!

* * *

(585) When did Moses sleep five in a bed?

When he slept with his forefathers.

* * *

(586) Why is a New York milkman like the fish that swallowed Jonah?

Because he finds a profit (prophet) in the water

* * *

(587) How do we know that Moses wore a wig?

Because he was sometimes seen with Aaron, and sometimes without any 'air on.

* * *

(588) How many wives are you allowed by the prayer book?

Sixteen; viz., 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer; total, 16.

* * *

(589) When Cain slew his brother, what suitable ejaculation would also have expressed his liability to punishment?

Amen-abel (amenable).

* * *

(590) How is it that Methuselah was the oldest man, when he died before his father?

His father was translated.

(591) When was paper money first mentioned in the Bible?

When the dove brought the green back to Noah.

* * *

(592) Where did Noah strike the first nail in the Ark?

On the head.

* * *

(593) How long did Cain hate his brother?
As long as he was Abel.

* * *

(594) Why had Eve no fear of the measles?
Because she's Adam (had them).

* * *

(595) Why was the daughter of Herodias the fastest girl mentioned in the New Testament?

Because she got a-head of John the Baptist on a charger.

* * *

(596) How did Jonah exhibit his feelings when the whale swallowed him?

He was down in the mouth and went to blubber.

* * *

(597) Why was Moses the most wicked man that ever lived?

Because he broke all the Ten Commandments at once!

* * *

(598) What man in the Bible had no father?
Joshua, the son of Nun.

(599) What is the most ancient mention made of a banking transaction?

When Pharaoh got a check on the Red Sea Bank, which was crossed by Moses.

* * *

(600) What did the skye-terrier do when he came out of the Ark?

He went smelling about for ere-a-rat (Ararat) that was there to be found.

* * *

(601) What animal took the most luggage into the Ark, and which the least?

The elephant who had his trunk; while the fox and the cock had only a brush and a comb between them.

* * *

(602) Why was Adam's wife called Eve?

Because man's day of happiness was drawing to a close!

* * *

(603) Why was Ruth very rude to Boaz?

Because she pulled his ears and trod on his corn.

* * *

(604) Why was Pharaoh's daughter like a broker?

Because she got a little profit (prophet) from the rushes on the bank.

* * *

(605) Why would Samson make an excellent actor?

Because he could so easily bring down the house.

(606) What confection did they have in the Ark?
Preserved pairs (pears).

For further riddles on this subject, see 15, 26, 80,
237, 271, 272, 296, 306, 368, 499, 706.

SECTION VIII
LITERARY

LITERARY

(607) What author goes to one's head?
Hood!

* * *

(608) When is an author a jeweller?
When he's a Goldsmith!

* * *

(609) What author was as good as his word?
Wordsworth!

* * *

(610) What poet was more amusing than Burns?
The one that was Whittier!

* * *

(611) Why were the last plots of Dickens complicated?

Because his early work was all of a twist (Oliver Twist)!

* * *

(612) What author was a twin?
Mark Twain!

* * *

(613) What lady of the Dante family is most often spoken of?

Ann-dante! (Andante.)

* * *

(614) What poem of Hood's resembles a large Roman nose?

"The Bridge of Sighs" (size)!

(615) What change of identity did the "Beggars' Opera" effect?

It made Gay rich, and Rich gay!

* * *

(616) Why is an architect like a newspaper man?
Because he gets so much a column for his work.

* * *

(617) Which is the smartest spirit among the poets?
Burns.

* * *

(618) Why is an oyster heap like a poet?
Because it's Shelley!

* * *

(619) What were the two admitted peculiarities of
Homer the poet?

Odd-I-see (Odyssey), and Ill-I-add (Iliad)!

* * *

(620) What American poet may be considered equal
to three-fifths of all the poets?

Poe!

* * *

(621) Why is an unskillful physician like Peleus' son
Achilles?

Because both have "sent many souls to Hades ere
their time"!

* * *

(622) What is the best prescription for a poet?
A composing draught.

* * *

(623) What part of breakfast is like Dickens' last
work?

The cereal (serial)!

(624) Why should the poet have expected the woodman to "spare that tree"?

Because he thought he was a good feller (fellow)!

* * *

(625) If your house were on fire what three authors would you be called upon to name?

Dickens—Howitt—Burns!

* * *

(626) When is a slug like a poem of Tennyson's?
When it's in a garden (Enoch Arden).

* * *

(627) How do we know that Lord Byron did not wear a wig?

Because every one admired his coarse hair (Corsair) so much.

* * *

(628) Why ought Shakespeare's dramatic works to be considered unpopular?

Because they contain "Much Ado About Nothing."

* * *

(629) Why was Dickens a greater man than Shakespeare?

Because Shakespeare wrote well, but Dickens wrote Weller.

* * *

(630) Why is an author the most wonderful man in the world?

Because his tail (tale) comes out of his head!

* * *

(631) Why are cheese-mites like a book of Bulwer's?

Because they are the "Pilgrims of the Rhine."

(632) How do we know that Lord Byron was good tempered?

Because he always kept his collar (choler) down.

* * *

(633) What was the saddest fact about the history of Milton?

He could "recite" his poems, but he could not resight himself.

* * *

(634) Why do we speak of poetic fire?

Because if the ancient Scandinavians had their "scalds" we have also had our Burns.

* * *

(635) If a tough beefsteak could speak, what English poet would it mention?

Chaw-sir (Chaucer)!

* * *

(636) When is a newspaper the sharpest?

When it is filed!

* * *

(637) Why is a Greek fable like a garrett?

Because it's an Attic story.

* * *

(638) What is the difference between a goose and an author?

A goose has many quills, but an author can make a goose of himself with only one quill!

* * *

(639) Why are Aesop's talking animals not so very improbable?

Because we still hear of deers talking (dear stalking).

(640) What reason is there to believe that Othello was really a lawyer?

Because he was a tawny general of Venice.

* * *

(641) What author would eye-glasses and spectacles mention if they could only speak?

Eusebius (you see by us).

* * *

(642) Which of the four seasons is the most literary?

Autumn, for then the leaves are turned and they are red (read).

* * *

(643) When is a pie like a poet?

When it is Browning!

* * *

(644) Why is the last day of February like one of Shakespeare's plays?

Because it is a Winter's Tale.

* * *

(645) What magazine gives the best report of a fire?

A powder magazine!

* * *

(646) Why was Shakespeare a money maker?

Because he furnished so many stock quotations!

* * *

(647) What is both food for the body, and food for the mind?

Bacon!

(648) What poem should a clown quote when driving six donkeys?

“We are Seven.” (Wordsworth.)

* * *

(649) Is there any bird which can recite the “Lays of Ancient Rome?”

Macaw-lays.

* * *

(650) Why is a magnificent house like a book of anecdotes?

It has generally some good stories in it.

* * *

(651) Why was the “melancholy Dane” the most pleasant of people?

Because he was always a-musing.

* * *

(652) Why are Addison’s works like a looking-glass?

Because in them we see the Spectator.

* * *

(653) Where did the Witch of Endor live and end her days?

At Endor.

* * *

For further riddles on this subject, see 161, 183, 189, 221, 381, 583, 657, 673, 684, 730, 768, 769, 801, 824, 907, 1011, 1122, 1188.

SECTION IX

ON MAN

ON MAN

(655) Why, when a fat man gets squeezed on coming out of the opera, does it make him complimentary to the ladies?

Because the pressure makes him flatter!

* * *

(656) Why is a man in love like a lobster?

Because he has a "lady" in his head!

* * *

(657) Why is it impossible for a chap who lisps to believe in women?

Because he calls every miss a myth.

* * *

(658) Why is an amusing man like a very bad shot?

Because he keeps the game alive.

* * *

(659) Why is a short man struggling to kiss a tall woman like an Irishman going up Vesuvius?

Because, sure, he's trying to get at the mouth of the crater!

* * *

(660) When is a candle like an ill-conditioned quarrelsome man?

When it is put out before it has time to flare up and blaze away. •

(661) Why should a greedy man wear a plaid waist-coat?

To keep a check on his stomach.

* * *

(662) What is the difference between a rejected and an accepted suitor?

One kisses his miss, the other misses his kiss.

* * *

(663) Why are married men like boilers?

Because they are subject to being blown up now and then!

* * *

(664) When is a man like a green gooseberry?

When a woman makes a fool of him!

* * *

(665) When is a man more than one man?

When he is beside himself!

* * *

(666) Why should a man never marry a woman named Ellen?

Because he rings his own (K)nell.

* * *

(667) When does a man impose on himself?

When he taxes his memory!

* * *

(668) What is that which a man has not, never can have, yet can give to a woman?

A husband.

* * *

(669) Why is a fretful man like a hard-baked loaf?

Because he is crusty.

(670) What is the essence of all men's desires when they are in love?

Acqui-escence.

* * *

(671) When does a man cease to be a man?

When he turns into a lane.

* * *

(672) Why should a man never tell his secrets in a corn-field?

Because there are too many ears, and besides they would be shocked!

* * *

(673) Why is a cross old bachelor like a rhyme?

Because he's *a-verse* to matrimony.

* * *

(674) When may a man be said to be personally involved?

When he is wrapped up in himself.

* * *

(675) When does a man permit himself to be hen-pecked?

When he is chicken hearted!

* * *

(676) At what period of his sorrow does a widower recover from the loss of his dear departed?

When he re-wives!

* * *

(677) Why are bald headed men in danger of dying?

Because "death loves a shining mark!"

* * *

(678) Why is a cautious, prudent man, like a pin?

Because his head prevents him from going too far.

(679) When is a fast young man nearest heaven?
When on a lark.

* * *

(680) When is a man most likely to get floored
(flawed)?

When he's up late (a plate), and so runs the chance
of becoming cracked.

* * *

(681) Why is a married man like a candle?

Because he sometimes goes out at night when he
ought'nt to.

* * *

(682) What sort of men are most aboveboard in
their movements?

Chess men.

* * *

(683) Why are stout gentlemen prone to melan-
choly?

Because they are men of size (sighs).

* * *

(684) When does a woman think her husband a Her-
cules?

When he can't get along without his club!

* * *

(685) When is a man like dough?

When a woman needs him.

For further riddles on this subject, see 2, 11, 35,
359, 362, 366, 371, 375, 387, 501, 503, 507, 508, 513,

608, 616, 691, 717, 767, 768, 780, 787, 804, 808, 813,
816, 829, 831, 833, 839, 850, 859, 889, 921, 955, 965,
980, 982, 983, 984, 990, 1006, 1010, 1016, 1032, 1042,
1055, 1056, 1062, 1070, 1080, 1093, 1099, 1105, 1158,
1161, 1168, 1207, 1208, 1212.

SECTION X
THEOLOGICAL

THEOLOGICAL

(686) When is a man's pastor really and truly his brother?

When he's his pa's son (parson).

* * *

(687) When is it dangerous to enter a church?

When there is a canon in the reading desk, a great gun in the pulpit, and the bishop charges the congregation!

* * *

(688) Why are bishops like superannuated washerwomen?

Because they wear lawn dresses (were laundresses)!

* * *

(689) Why can no clergyman have a wooden leg?

Because, although a chaplain may be a plain chap, a parson can't be a lame un (layman).

* * *

(690) If a woman were to change her sex, what religion would she be?

She would be a he'then (heathen).

* * *

(691) Why is a convivial man like a Quaker?

Because he is fond of the Society of Friends.

* * *

(692) Why is a kiss like a sermon?

Because it requires two heads and an application.

(693) Why is a sporting clergyman like a soldier that runs from the battle?

Because he departs from his sphere of action.

* * *

(694) Why is the treadmill like a true convert?

Because its turning is the result of conviction.

* * *

(695) Why is divinity the easiest of the three learned professions?

Because it is easier to preach than to practice!

* * *

(696) Which cardinal wears the largest hat?

The one with the largest head, of course!

* * *

(697) Why is a doleful face like the alternate parts taken by the choir?

When it is anti-funny (antiphony).

* * *

(698) What is the only part of a church that runs no chance of being saved in a fire?

The organ, because the engine can't play upon it!

* * *

(699) Why is confessing to a father confessor like killing bees?

Because you unbuzz-em (unbosom)!

* * *

(700) What is the difference between a Roman Catholic Priest and a Baptist?

One uses wax candles, the other dips.

(701) What is a frequent mistake clergymen make in their sermons?

They make them too long!

* * *

(702) What should a clergyman preach about?

About a quarter of an hour.

* * *

(703) Why shouldn't you go to church with a cough?

Because you disturb the "rest" of the congregation!

* * *

(704) Why is a joke less durable than a church bell?

Because after it has been told (toll'd) a few times it is worn out.

* * *

(705) Why are three couples going to church like a child's penny trumpet?

Because they go too, too, too (two, two, two.)

* * *

(706) Why is a divinity student like a merchant?

Because he studies the profits (prophets).

* * *

(707) In what part of the church do they ring the bell(e)s?

At the altar.

* * *

(708) Why are religious communities like bees?

Because they are in-sects!

* * *

(709) Why can't a bishop eat his own apron?

Because it goes against his stomach!

For further riddles on this subject, see 80, 92, 147, 249, 291, 296, 718, 1221.

SECTION XI

ON ANATOMY.

ON ANATOMY

(710) What is the smallest bridge in the world?
The bridge of your nose.

* * *

(711) Why are your nose and chin constantly at variance?

Because words are constantly passing between them.

* * *

(712) Why is the nose on your face like the "v" in civility?

Because it's between two eyes!

* * *

(713) Name that which with only one eye put out has but a nose left?

Noise.

* * *

(714) When has a man four hands?

When he doubles up his wrists!

* * *

(715) Why is your thumb, when putting on a glove, like eternity?

Because it's ever-lastin'.

* * *

(716) When is a nose not a nose?

When it is a little reddish, or when it is a turnip!

(717) Why is a lover's heart like a sea serpent?
Because it's a secreter of great sighs (size)!

* * *

(718) Why is your nose like St. Paul's?
Because it is flesh and blood.

* * *

(719) On what toe does a corn never come?
The mistletoe!

* * *

(720) When is a river good for the eyes?
When it is eye (high) water.

* * *

(721) Why is a drawn tooth like a thing forgotten?
Because it is out of your head.

* * *

(722) What is that which denotes the state of the
mind and of the body?
The tongue.

* * *

(723) Why is painting your hair red like a part of
your throat?

Because it's the carrot dyed art hairy (carotid
artery)!

* * *

(724) Why are your eyes like friends separated by
distant climes?

Because, though they may correspond, they may
never meet.

* * *

(725) Why is a school boy being flogged like your
eye?

Because he's a pupil under the lash!

(726) Why are your eyes like fierce horses?

Because they are continually under the lashes.

* * *

(727) When is a schoolmaster like a man with one eye?

When he has a vacancy for a pupil.

For further riddles on this subject, see 16, 19, 52, 138, 157, 305, 656, 731, 732, 824, 829, 831, 927, 932, 970, 1016, 1044, 1088, 1106, 1122, 1144, 1147, 1146, 1148, 1149, 1207.

SECTION XII
LINGUISTICAL

ON THE LANGUAGES

(728) Quelle est le peuple le moins gai de l'univers?

Le peuple Persan, parce qu'il est gouverné par un shah (chat) et que le shah fait fuir les souris.

* * *

(729) Quelle difference y a-t-il enter le souverain de la Perse et le Viceroy d'Egypte?

C'est que l'un est chat (shah) et l'autre pas chat (Pacha).

* * *

(730) What is a good quotation to make on arriving at the docks at Alexandria?

Docks et praeterea Nile.

* * *

(731) Why is a certain King of Italy like an opera singer who has lost his voice? (Answer in French.)

Parce qu'il a perdu sa voix (Savoie).

* * *

(732) What is the difference between an arrow wound in America, and a wound from an arrow in France?

In America the flesh is entered, but in France it is the flèche that enters!

* * *

(733) Je suis le capitaine de vingt-quatre soldats, et sans moi Paris serait pris.

A.

(734) Pourquoi les amateurs du beau sexe vont-ils souvent à l'hippodrome?

Afin d'être en cirque assis (Circassie).

* * *

(735) Un filou peut-il prendre pour devise, Honneur à Dieu?

Non, car il faut qu'il dise, Adieu honneur!

* * *

(736) Pourquoi les Carthaginois portaient-ils toujours des gants?

Parce qu'ils n'aimaient pas l'air aux mains (les Romains)!

* * *

(737) Quand un gant ressemble-t-il au numéro vingt-cinq?

Quand il est neuf et très étroit (et treize et trois)!

* * *

(738) Je suis ce que je suis,
Mais je ne suis pas ce que je suis;
Car si j'étais ce que je suis,
Je ne serai pas ce que je suis.

Un berger.

* * *

(739) Je ne suis pas ce que je suis; car si j'étais ce que je suis, je ne serais pas ce que je suis, cependant je suis; devinez qui je suis?

Un domestique qui suit sa maîtresse.

* * *

(740) Recite three times running without any mistakes the following French sentences:

"Le riz tenta le rat, le rat tenté tata le riz."

"Sept chats dans chaque sac."

"Avez-vous vu le loup?"

"Original, quand te désoriginaliseras tu? Je me désoriginaliserai quand tous les autres originaux se désoriginaliseront!"

"Ton the t'a t'il ote ta toux?"

"Ciel! si ceci se sait, ses soins sont sans succes?"

"Combien coutent ces six saucissons? Ces six saucissons coutent six sous! Six sous ces six saucissons? Si ces six saucissons sont trop chers!"

"Didon dina diton sur les os du dos du dodu dindon!"

* * *

(741) Pourquoi Napoleon court-il le risque d'être vainu?

Parce qu'il a toujours un N mis (ennemi) devant, et un N mis derrière.

* * *

(742) What language should a linguist end with?
The Finnish.

* * *

(743) Why is a rakish Hebrew like this joke?
Because he is a Jew de spree (jeu d'esprit)!

For further riddles on this subject, see 322, 335, 344, 377.

SECTION XIII
MATHEMATICAL

MATHEMATICAL

(744) An old woman, carrying eggs to market in a basket, met an unruly fellow, who broke them. Being taken before a magistrate, he was ordered to pay for them, provided the woman could tell how many she had had; but she could only remember that in counting them into the basket by twos, by threes, by fours, by fives and by sixes, there always remained one; but by counting them by sevens, there were none remaining. Now in this case how was the number to be ascertained?

This is the same thing as finding a number, which being divided by 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, there shall remain 1, but being divided by 7, there shall remain nothing; and the least number, which will answer to the conditions of the question, is found to be 301, which was therefore the number of eggs the old woman had in her basket.

* * *

(745) A and B each took 30 pigs to market, A sold his at 3 for a dollar, B at 2 for a dollar, and together they received \$25. A afterwards took 60 alone, which he sold as before, at 5 for \$2 and received but \$24; what became of the other dollar?

This is rather a catch question. The insinuation that the first lot was sold at the rate of five for \$2 being only true in part. They commence selling at that rate, but after making ten sales, A's pigs are exhausted, and they have received \$20; B has still 10 which he sells at "2 for a dollar," and of course receives

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* * *

(745) A and B each took 30 pigs to market, A sold his at 3 for a dollar, B at 2 for a dollar, and together they received \$25. A afterwards took 60 alone, which he sold as before, at 5 for \$2 and received but \$24; what became of the other dollar?

This is rather a catch question. The insinuation that the first lot was sold at the rate of five for \$2 being only true in part. They commence selling at that rate, but after making ten sales, A's pigs are exhausted, and they have received \$20; B has still 10 which he sells at "2 for a dollar," and of course receives

and returned her 1, after which she found that she had 12 apples remaining. What number had she at first?

From the 12 remaining deduct 1, and 11 is the number she sold the last boy, which was half she had; her number at that time, therefore, was 22. From 22 deduct 2, and the remaining 20 was $\frac{2}{3}$ of her prior stock, which was therefore 30. From 30 deduct 10, and the remainder 20 is half her original stock; consequently she had at first 40 apples.

* * *

(759) Place three sixes together so as to make seven.

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \hline 6\ 6 \end{array}$$

* * *

(760) Add one to nine and make it twenty.

IX-cross the *I*, it makes XX.

* * *

(761) What piece of coin is double its value by deducting its half?

Halfpenny!

For further mathematical riddles see the Puzzles.

SECTION XIV
MISCELLANEOUS

MISCELLANEOUS

(762) When may an army be said to be totally destroyed?

When the soldiers are all in quarters!

* * *

(763) What is tantalizing?

Giving invitations only to teas (tease).

* * *

(764) What contains more feet in winter than in summer?

A skating rink.

* * *

(765) What is a soldier's definition of a kiss?

A report at headquarters.

* * *

(766) When is a secret like a paint-brush?

When it is in-violet (inviolable).

* * *

(767) Why should a man named Benjamin marry a girl named Annie?

Because he would then be Bennie-fitted, she Annie-mated.

* * *

(768) Where can you find every word of your last interesting conversation with Miss —, all written down, word for word?

In a dictionary.

(769) Why are parliamentary reports called "Blue Books?"

Because they are never re(a)d.

* * *

(770) Why are the heads of art galleries privileged to pick your pockets?

Because they have picked-yours (pictures).

* * *

(771) Why are pipes all hum-bug?

Because the best of them are meer-shams.

* * *

(772) How can you get a new set of teeth inserted gratis?

Introduce yourself to a strange bull dog.

* * *

(773) What is the difference between a gardener and a billiard marker?

One minds his peas, the other his cues.

* * *

(774) When can you be said to literally drink in music?

When you have a piano for-tea.

* * *

(775) What is the difference between a concert pianist and his audience?

One plays for his pay (occasionally for his art), and the other pays for his play (too often to be "arty").

* * *

(776) Why is a man whose "walk in life" is selling eggs certain to be successful?

Because he shows a good egg-sample from egg-sell-ent motives!

* * *

(777) I am neither fish, flesh, nor fowl, yet I frequently stand on one leg; and if you behead me I stand upon two. What is stranger still, if you again decapitate me I stand upon four, and I shall think you related to me if you don't recognize me?

Glass—lass—ass.

* * *

(778) How is it that guns can kick when they have no legs?

With their breeches, naturally!

* * *

(779) When is a soldier charitable?

When he presents arms.

* * *

(780) When does a man have to keep his word?

When no one will take it.

* * *

(781) Why is flirting like plate-powder?

Because it brightens the spoons.

* * *

(782) Why is a bank bandit always comfortable?

Because he takes things easy.

* * *

(783) Why should we shun the company of chandlers?

Because all their works are wicked, and all their wicked works are brought to light.

- (784) Why are cowardly soldiers like tallow candles?
Because when exposed to fire they run!

* * *

- (785) If you were invited to an assembly, what single word would summon the Jazz and at the same time tell you the hour to start dancing?

At ten dance (attendance).

* * *

- (786) Why is a small boy like flannel?
Because he shrinks from washing.

* * *

- (787) What is the difference between a professor of Natation and a Turk, the inhabitants of whose harem are getting thinner?

One watches his swimmin' lesson with pleasure, the other watches his women lessen with pair

* * *

- (788) Why should you never abuse one and one-half per cent beer?

Because it's not right to speak ill of the dead.

* * *

- (789) Why is a pair of skates like an apple?
Because they have both occasioned the fall of man!

* * *

- (790) What is the best day for making pan-cakes?
Fri-day, you should have known!

* * *

- (791) When is a man like a cannon ball?
When he looks round, don't you think?

(792) When may a man be said to be literally immersed in his business?

When giving a swimming lesson.

* * *

(793) What is it that stands aloft, and regulates our daily movements, yet feels no interest in our concerns; directs us when to come, when to go; yet cares not whether we attend or not; still, thus indifferent to our fate, he often strikes a heavy blow to urge us on, and we feel no resentment when the reproof is given?

A clock.

* * *

(794) What is that which we receive without thanks, which we enjoy without knowing how, which we bestow on others without knowing where it is to be found, and which we lose without being sensible of its loss?

Life.

* * *

(795) Why is good music like a medicine not publicly known?

It is no strum (nostrum).

* * *

(796) Why is a man looking for the philosopher's stone like Neptune?

Because he's a sea king what never was!

* * *

(797) What is characteristic of a watch?

Modesty, as it keeps its hands before its face and runs down its own works.

* * *

(798) Why are seeds when sown like gate-posts?

Because they propagate (prop a gate).

- (799) When is a clock on the stairs dangerous?
When it runs down.

* * *

- (800) What thing is that which is lengthened by being
cut at both ends?
A ditch!

* * *

- (801) When is a newspaper like a sickly child?
When it appears weekly.

* * *

- (802) Where did you go on your tenth birthday?
Into your eleventh birthday, of course!

* * *

- (803) Why is a baker a most improvident person?
Because he is continually selling that which he
kneads himself!

* * *

- (804) Why is the French chef at the Union Club like
a man perched on the Woolworth Tower?
Because they are both in a high cool an' airy
(culinary) situation!

* * *

- (805) State the difference between a grocer selling
a pound of sugar and an apothecary's boy with a pes-
tle and mortar.

One weighs a pound, the other pounds away.

* * *

- (806) What is it we all frequently say we will do,
yet no one has ever managed to do?
Stop a minute!

(807) Two men, with their two wives and two sons, stand thus related to each other: the men are each other's fathers and sons, their wives' fathers and husbands, and their children's fathers and grandfathers; the women are the children's mothers and sisters, and the boys are uncles to each other. How can this be, and the parties yet lawfully married?

The two men had been widowers, and married each other's daughters.

* * *

(808) What is the difference between the milky-whey, or way, and a room full of great-grandfathers?

One is a lot of pale stars, the other a lot of stale pa's.

* * *

(809) Who were your grandfather's first cousin's sister's son's brother's forefathers?

Don't answer hastily! His aunt's sisters, of course (ancestors).

* * *

(810) What kin is that child to its father who is not his own father's son?

His daughter.

* * *

(811) If Dick's father is Tom's son, what relation is Tom to Dick?

Tom is his grandfather.

* * *

(812) What would be a proper verdict to pass on an old roue's black moustache?

Dyed by his own hand!

(813) Why is it easy to break into an old man's house?

Because his gait is broken and his locks are few.

* * *

(814) What is the difference between the Prince of Wales, an orphan, a bald-headed old man, and the gorilla?

The first is an heir apparent, the second has ne'er a parent, the third has no hair apparent, and the fourth has a hairy parent!

* * *

(815) Perfect with a head, perfect without a head, perfect with a tail, without a tail, perfect with either, neither, or both, what is it?

A wig.

* * *

(816) When does a son not take after his father?

When his father leaves him nothing to take.

* * *

(817) Why are poor relations like fits of the gout?

Because the oftener they come the longer they stay!

* * *

(818) What liquor (if we had it) would restore a fainting woman to consciousness?

Curação (cure her so).

* * *

(819) On what supposition could a pocket handkerchief build a house?

If it be-cam-brick!

* * *

(820) What is the height of folly?

Spending your last dollar to buy a purse!

(821) What soap is the hardest?

Cast-steel.

* * *

(822) Wipe my face and I'm everybody, scratch my back and I am nobody?

A mirror.

* * *

(823) Why is a mirror like an ungrateful friend?

Because no matter how much you load his back with silver he will still reflect on you!

* * *

(824) Why is wit like a Chinese lady's foot?

Because brevity is the sole (soul) of it!

* * *

(825) Why is raisin, plum, or apple pie, like a bad dime?

Because it isn't currant!

* * *

(826) What is that of which the common sort is best?

Common sense!

* * *

(827) When you go to Woolworth's for ten cents worth of thumb-tacks, what do you want them for?

For ten cents!

* * *

(828) Why is the inside of everything mysterious?

Because we can't make it out!

* * *

(829) Why should a man troubled with gout make his will?

Because he will then have his leg at ease (legatees).

(830) How many sides has a pitcher?

Two; inside and outside!

* * *

(831) What is that which no man wishes to have, yet no man would wish to lose?

A bald head!

* * *

(832) Why are the very old tedious?

Because they die late (dilate).

* * *

(833) Who was the fastest runner in the world?

Adam, because he was the first in the human race!

* * *

(834) Who was the first to swear in this world?

Eve, because when Adam asked if he might kiss her, she said, I don't care A-dam if you do!

* * *

(835) Why is an aviator like a phantom?

Because he's an airy-naught (aeronaut).

* * *

(836) Why is a Congressman like an aviator?

Because everybody appears little to him, and he appears little to everybody!

* * *

(837) Why is an engine at a fire an anomaly?

Because it works and plays at the same time!

* * *

(838) Why are cripples, beggars and hoboos similar to shepherds and fishermen?

Because they live by hook and crook!

- (839) Why shouldn't a prohibitionist have a wife?
Because he couldn't sup-port her!

* * *

- (840) Why do prohibitionists run such a slight risk
of drowning?

Because they are so accustomed to keep their noses
above water and their eyes o'er the sea!

* * *

- (841) When is love deformed?
When it is all on one side!

* * *

- (842) Why is blind man's bluff like sympathy?
Because it's a fellow feeling for another.

* * *

- (843) What was it a blind man took for breakfast
which restored his sight?

A cup and saw, sir (saucer).

* * *

- (844) Why is it hard to steal a watch?
Because it has to be taken off its guard.

* * *

- (845) Why are troops intended for foreign shores
like old maids about to be married?

They go off in transports!

* * *

- (846) Why is a whisper like a forged note?
Because it's uttered—but not aloud (allowed).

* * *

- (847) What is the most horrid thing to keep on hand?
Hand-cuffs.

(849) What is the difference between homicide and pig-sticking?

One is assault with intent to kill, the other a kill with intent to salt!

* * *

(850) Why is a bootlegger's trade a profitable one to follow?

Because by conducting it with good spirits he has more bar-gains than most others, and all his drafts (draughts) are accepted in silence!

* * *

(851) What is a Christian name, besides Anna, which reads the same both ways?

Hannah.

* * *

(852) Why is a room full of married couples like an empty room?

Because there is not a single person in it.

* * *

(853) What two ages often prove illusory?

Mir-age and marri-age!

* * *

(854) What games are played most by soldiers?

Hazard and picket.

* * *

(855) What is that which is put on the table and cut, but never eaten?

A pack of cards!

* * *

(856) What is the first thing a small boy does when he falls into the water?

He gets awfully wet!

(857) What is the first thing you do on getting into bed?

You make an impression.

* * *

(858) Why can't the proprietor of a forest fell his own timber?

Because no one is allowed to cut when it's his own deal.

* * *

(859) Why is a blockhead deserving of promotion?

Because he is equal to any post.

* * *

(860) What is that which we all eat and all drink though it is often a woman and often a man?

A toast!

* * *

(861) If the devil were to lose his tail, where would he go to get another?

To a bootlegger's, because there bad spirits are re-tailed!

* * *

(862) Hold up your hand, and you will see what you never did see, never can see, and never will see. What is this?

That the little finger is not so long as the middle finger!

* * *

(863) What is the difference between an auction and sea sickness?

One is a sale of effects, the other the effects of a sail.

(864) Why isn't credit given at an auction?

Because all goods brought to the hammer must be paid for—on the nail!

* * *

(865) What sense pleases you most in an enemy?
Absence!

* * *

(866) What part of an engine ought to have most careful attention?

The tender part.

* * *

(867) When may funds be said to be unsteady?
When money's tight.

* * *

(868) Why is a vanity case like a blank cartridge?
Because it's all powder and puff.

* * *

(869) From a number that's odd, cut off the head, it then will even be; its tail I pray now take away, your mother then you'll see.

Seven—even—Eve.

* * *

(870) What's the difference between a tight shoe and an oak tree?

One makes acorns, the other makes corns ache.

* * *

(871) How would you increase the speed of a slow boat?

By making her fast.

(872) Why can a fish never be in the dark?

Because of his paraffins (pair of fins).

* * *

(873) Why is love like a candle?

Because the longer it burns the less it becomes.

* * *

(874) Why are sentries like day and night?

Because when the one comes the other goes.

* * *

(875) When is a carpenter like circumstance?

When he alters cases.

* * *

(876) What carpenter's tool is like coffee?

An axe with a dull edge, because it must be ground before it can be used.

* * *

(877) What servants are best for hotels?

Inn-experienced ones.

* * *

(878) If you were running for a cup, what sort of day would you choose?

A muggy one, of course!

* * *

(879) What is that which we often catch hold of, yet never see?

A passing remark.

* * *

(880) What key in music will make a good officer?

A major.

(881) What is the keynote to good manners?
B natural.

* * *

(882) When is a stupid chap like G minor?
When he's A flat one.

* * *

(883) What musical keys should a man study when
he's walking on ice?
C sharp and B flat.

* * *

(884) Why is a list of celebrated composers like
a saucepan?
Because it's incomplete without a Handel.

* * *

(885) What is the difference between a coat and a
baby?
The one I wear, the other I was.

* * *

(886) When can a man's coat-pocket be empty, yet
have something in it?
When it has a hole in it.

* * *

(887) What is the difference between a man from
Pittsburgh and a man in mourning?
One is covered with soot, the other suited in black.

* * *

(888) What part of speech is kissing?
A conjunction.

(889) Why is a son who objects to his mother's second marriage like an exhausted pedestrian?

Because he can't go a step father.

* * *

(890) Which travels faster, heat or cold?

Heat; because you can easily catch cold.

* * *

(891) I am forever yet was never?

Eternity!

* * *

(892) What soup would a cannibal prefer?

A broth of a boy!

* * *

(893) Why is an old coat like iron?

Because it's a specimen of hard-ware.

* * *

(894) Why is lip-salve like a chaperone?

Because it's meant to keep the chaps off.

* * *

(895) Why does a railroad conductor punch a hole in your ticket?

So you can pass through.

* * *

(896) How many golf sticks would it take to reach from New York to Boston, upon the rule of eleven and five-eighth inches to the foot, and having all the ground leveled between the two places?

One, if it were long enough!

(897) What is the only form in this world which all nations, barbarous, civilized and otherwise, insist upon following?

The female form!

* * *

(898) When are hand-cuffs like steamer trunks?
When they are made for two wrists (tourists).

* * *

(899) What is that which goes up-hill and down-hill and all over everywhere, yet never moves?

A road.

* * *

(900) Name the most unsociable things in the world?
Milestones, because you never see two of them together.

* * *

(901) What is that which everyone wishes, yet wants to get rid of as soon as obtained?

A good appetite.

* * *

(902) What is the difference between an organist and the influenza?

One does the stops, the other stops the doze.

* * *

(903) What is it gives a cold, cures a cold, and pays the doctor's bill?

A draft.

* * *

(904) What is a good sleeping draught?
Taking a doze.

(905) Why is a door that refuses to open or shut properly like a man being unable to walk because of a broken leg?

Because both cases are the result of a hinge-awry (injury).

* * *

(906) What is that which never asks questions yet requires many answers?

The telephone.

* * *

(907) At what time by the clock is a pun most effective?

When it strikes one.

* * *

(908) What relation is the door-mat to the door-step?

A step-father.

* * *

(909) There was a carpenter who made a pantry door; it proved too big; he cut it; unfortunately he cut it too little; he thereupon cut it again and it fit beautifully; how was this?

He didn't cut it enough the first time!

* * *

(910) Why is an actress like an angel?

Because we never see one but what is painted!

* * *

(911) When is a ham not a ham?

When it's an actor!

* * *

(912) Why is a leak like a coward?

Because it runs.

- (913) Why is love always represented as a child?
Because it never reaches the age of discretion.

* * *

- (914) Why is love like a canal boat?
Because it is an internal transport.

* * *

- (915) Why is a new-born baby like a storm?
Because it begins with a squall.

* * *

- (916) What should a man about to be hung have for breakfast?

A hearty choke (artichoke) and a hoister (oyster).

* * *

- (917) Why is a wainscoted room like a reprieve?
Because it saves hanging.

* * *

- (918) Why is a man hung better than a vagabond?
Because he has a visible means of support.

* * *

- (919) How is it that you can never tell a lady's real hysterics from her sham ones?

Because in either case it's a feint (faint).

* * *

- (920) When may people who are enjoying themselves be said to look wretched?

When they are in tiers (tears) at the opera.

* * *

- (921) What kind of a book might a man wish his wife to resemble?

A telephone book, for then he might have a new one ever so often!

* * *

(922) When is millinery not millinery?

When it becomes a pretty woman.

* * *

(923) If a bear were to go into a department store, what would he want?

Muzzlin' (muslin).

* * *

(924) Why is a blacksmith the most likely person to benefit by the alphabet's quarrels?

Because he makes A poke R and shove L and gets paid for it.

* * *

(925) Why is a riveter the most dissatisfied worker?

Because he is always on the strike for wages!

* * *

(926) What is the difference between photography and the whooping cough?

One makes fac-similes, the other sick families.

* * *

(927) A one-eyed beggar bet his friend that he could see more with his one eye than his friend could see with two. How was this?

Because he saw his friend's two eyes, and the other saw only his one!

* * *

(928) Why is an umbrella like a pancake?

Because it is seldom seen after Lent!

(929) Why is a washerwoman like Saturday?

Because she brings in the close (clothes) of the week.

* * *

(930) Why is a washerwoman the cruelest person in the world?

Because she daily wrings men's bosoms.

* * *

(931) Who is the oldest lunatic on record?

Time out of mind.

* * *

(932) What is better than presence of mind in an accident?

Absence of body!

* * *

(933) What is the difference between a train that arrives punctually and a collision?

One is quite an accident, the other— isn't! Unless it's the Erie!

* * *

(934) Why were our grandmothers and their crinolines ugly?

Because they were not even passable!

* * *

(935) What is the superlative of temper?

Tempest.

* * *

(936) When is it a good thing to lose your temper?

When it's a bad one!

(937) Why is it important for a physician to keep his temper?

Because if he didn't he would lose his patients!

* * *

(938) Why is a wedding ring like eternity?

Because it has no beginning and no ending.

* * *

(939) What is that which ties two persons and only one touches?

A wedding ring!

* * *

(940) Why does a dressmaker never lose her hooks?

Because she has an eye to each of them.

* * *

(941) What goes most against a farmer's grain?

His reaper.

* * *

(942) What is the difference between a farmer and a dressmaker?

One gathers what he sows, the other sews what she gathers.

* * *

(943) What is the best way to enjoy happiness in courtship?

Get a little gal-an'-try.

* * *

(944) Why is there no such thing as an entire day?

Because each one begins by breaking.

(945) What is that which every living person has seen but will never see again?

Yesterday!

* * *

(946) What is that which will be yesterday and was to-morrow?

To-day, of course!

* * *

(947) What question is it to which you must positively answer yes?

What does y-e-s spell?

* * *

(948) Why are Germans like quinine and gentian?

Because they are teutonics (two tonics).

* * *

(949) What is the difference between the manner of death of a sculptor and a barber?

One makes faces and busts, the other curls up and dies.

* * *

(950) When does a gourmand find it impossible to curb his appetite?

When he wants a bit in his mouth out of a saddle of mutton.

* * *

(951) Why is horse racing a necessity?

Because it is a matter of course!

* * *

(952) Why is riding up a steep hill like a little dog's female puppy suffering from rheumatism?

Because it's a gal-pup-ill (gall(o) up (h)ill).

(953) When is a dogma like a bad cur?
When it's an opinion laid down with a snarl.

* * *

(954) What sort of tune do we most enjoy?
For-tune, when it's made up of bank-notes.

* * *

(955) Why is a miserly uncle with whom you have
quarreled like a person with a short memory?
Because he is ever for-getting and never for-giving.

* * *

(956) Why are worn out clothes like children with-
out parents?
Because they are left off'uns (orphans).

* * *

(957) Why is swearing aloud like an old coat?
Because it's a bad habit.

* * *

(958) Suppose you were to bore a hole exactly
through the earth, starting from Dublin, and you went
in at this end, where would you come out?
Why, out of the hole!

* * *

(959) Why, when you paint a man's portrait, can
you be said to step into his shoes?
When you make his feet yours (features).

* * *

(960) Why may a beggar wear a very short coat?
Because it will be long before he has another!

- (961) Where should you feel for the poor?
In your pocket, to be sure!

* * *

- (962) What is the best way of making a coat last?
Make the vest and trousers first.

* * *

- (963) What is the difference between a dairy maid
and a swallow?

One skims the milk, the other skims the water.

* * *

- (964) When does a quarter act as a razor?
When a man cuts off his heirs (hairs) with one!

* * *

- (965) Why is a spendthrift like the water in a
filter?

Because he soon runs through it and leaves many
matters behind to settle.

* * *

- (966) What is a button?
A small event that is always coming off!

* * *

- (967) What is it that opens to all comers, adver-
tises only the doctors, and yet is good for everything
that ails you?

The grave.

* * *

- (968) Why is a bride, weary of her apartment, like
a wrecked automobile?

They've both stalled and are flat tired!

(969) Why can the weight of an illuminating argument never be accurately determined?

Because as the hearer weighs the words the scales fall from his eyes!

* * *

(970) How does the surgeon, whose bill for an operation has been delayed by the executors, resemble his deceased patient?

He feels terribly cut up.

* * *

(971) How does the cavalryman whose horse has thrown him differ from the faithful orderly?

He obeys orders from hindquarters, while the orderly obeys orders from headquarters!

* * *

(972) What is the best place to sow wild oats?

Near a bank!

* * *

(973) What have you now before you which would give you a company, a veiled woman, and a noisy toy?

Co-nun-drum!

* * *

(974) Why is a mother rocking her child to sleep liable to arrest?

Because she's engaged in kid-napping!

* * *

(975) Why is a gimlet like a prophesier of ill events?

Because it is an auger-ill.

* * *

(976) What is the best way to make hours go fast?

Use the spur of a moment!

(977) If a man attempts to jump a ditch and falls, why is he likely to miss the beauties of summer?

Because the fall follows right after the spring, unless he makes a summer-set between them!

* * *

(978) Why is a vessel being blown out to sea like a bankrupt householder?

Because both admit to a forced sail.

* * *

(979) What is a better investment the worse it is?
A tenement.

* * *

(980) Why is a dressmaker braver than an actor?

Because she is not afraid of the hook!

* * *

(981) Why are seasick passengers like a strong opposition in Congress?

Because they are opposed to the motion!

* * *

(982) Why is an aviator whose plane plows into the earth like a successful speculator?

Because he has taken a flier in real estate.

* * *

(983) Why are aeroplane inventors like musicians?

Because they bend all their energies to the conquest of the air!

* * *

(984) Why is a discredited politician like an unpopular dentist?

Because each has lost his pull!

(985) Why is a department store like a country sewing circle?

Because it has so many notions!

* * *

(986) Why is a music teacher like a baseball coach?

Because he frequently says, "Try that last run over again."

* * *

(987) What is the difference between a bright scholar and shoe polish?

One shines at the head, the other at the foot!

* * *

(988) When does a musician fail?

When he is unable to discount his notes!

* * *

(989) Why is a jeweler like a prisoner in solitary confinement?

Because he has too much time on his hands!

* * *

(990) Under what circumstances are a builder and a newspaper reporter likely to fail?

When they make up stories without foundations!

* * *

(991) Why is it unjust for us to blame taxi drivers for cheating us?

Because we call them to take us in.

* * *

(992) What is the driest subject?

The mummy!

(993) What is the wind like in a storm?
Like to blow your hat off!

* * *

(994) Why is it vulgar to send a telegram?
Because it's making use of flash language!

* * *

(995) Why is a pictorial riddle like a second kiss?
Because it's a rebus (re-buss).

* * *

(996) Why is the latest gown of fashion like a
"jimmy"?
Because it's perfectly stunning!

* * *

(997) When do soldiers never sit?
When they belong to a standing army!

* * *

(998) When may a chair be said to dislike you?
When it can't bear you!

* * *

(999) What is that which divides by uniting, and
unites by dividing?
The scissors.

* * *

(1000) Why are young children like castles in the
air?
Because their existence is only in-fancy.

* * *

(1001) When is a Southern Mammy like a door-way?
When she's a negress (an egress)!

(1002) Why are ripe potatoes in the ground like thieves?

Because they ought to be taken up!

* * *

(1003) What are the worst letters of recommendation?

I O U.

* * *

(1004) Why is a baby like a sheaf of wheat?

Because it is first cradled, then threshed, and afterward becomes the flower of the family.

* * *

(1005) What is odd about flowers?

They shoot before they have pistols!

* * *

(1006) When is a man thinner than a lath?

When he's a-shaving!

* * *

(1007) Why is opening a letter like entering a room from the top?

Because it's breaking the sealing (ceiling).

* * *

(1008) What wind should a hungry sailor wish for?

One that blows foul and chops about!

* * *

(1009) Why is a conductor on a car like a firefly?

Because he can make you a-light!

(1010) Why is an automobilist who exceeds the speed limit like a social reprobate?

Because he's too fast!

* * *

(1011) Why is the divorce court like certain newspapers?

Because it has a matrimonial correspondents' (correspondence) section.

* * *

(1012) What does the lamp post become when the lamp is removed?

A lamp lighter!

* * *

(1013) Why is a mother who spoils her child like a person building castles in the air?

She indulges in-fancy too much.

* * *

(1014) Why are you like a just judge when you listen to your brother's drum?

Because you hear both sides!

* * *

(1015) Why is a father who frequently thrashes his boy likely to be prosecuted?

Because he exerts undue influence in the making of a will!

* * *

(1016) Why is a Wall Street lamb like a surgical convalescent?

Because he's been operated on!

(1017) Why is the humiliated braggart like the small boy who has drunk the washing fluid?

Because he has swallowed the lye!

* * *

(1018) Why is the fresh young upstart like an aerial postman?

Because he's up and coming.

* * *

(1019) What is the coldest place in an opera house?
Z Row!

* * *

(1020) What will eventually change the size of the auto?

The demand for more gauge (mortgage) which the present fad creates.

* * *

(1021) Why is the nurse of an insane ward like a popular opera star?

Because everybody is crazy about her!

* * *

(1022) When are words musical?

When they have a ring to them!

* * *

(1023) Why is an aeroplane bequeathed to you by your father like the portrait of an ancestor?

Because it is a family heirloom!

* * *

(1024) What is that which has a mouth but never speaks, and a bed but never sleeps in it?

A river.

(1025) What is the difference between a soldier and a sailor?

One pitches his tent, the other tars his ropes!

* * *

(1026) What is the ugliest hood ever worn?
Falsehood.

* * *

(1027) Why are cobblers like a famous physician?
They are skilled in the art of healing (heeling)!

* * *

(1028) When is a subject beneath one's notice?
When it is under consideration.

* * *

(1029) When is a pint of milk not a pint?
When it's condensed.

* * *

(1030) What is that which has four legs and only one foot?
A bedstead.

* * *

(1031) Why is attar of roses never moved without notice?

Because it is scent wherever it goes.

* * *

(1032) When is a man like frozen rain?
When he is hail (hale)!

* * *

(1033) Why is a carpenter like a languid dandy?
Because he often feels a great deal bored (board)!

(1034) What is the last blow a defeated ship gives in battle?

Striking her own flag!

* * *

(1035) What had better be done when there is a rent on the farm?

It had better be sewn (sown).

* * *

(1036) Why is a young lawyer in his office like one of his chickens roosting on a neighbor's fence?

Because he has no business there!

* * *

(1037) What is the difference between perseverance and obstinacy?

One arises from a strong *will*, the other from a strong *won't*!

* * *

(1038) What is the noblest musical instrument?

An upright piano!

* * *

(1039) What is the vilest musical instrument?

A lyre!

* * *

(1040) How do seamstresses resemble rascals?

They cut and run!

* * *

(1041) Why is a Bostonian's brain like a book of conundrums?

Because it's full of notions.

* * *

(1042) Why is a lucky man like a straw in the water?

Because he gets on swimmingly!

- (1043) Why is a mirror complaisant?
Because it always reflects others, and never itself!

* * *

- (1044) Why is a newspaper like a lame man?
Because it generally lies!

* * *

- (1045) Why is a staircase like a backbiter?
Because it rails against you!

* * *

- (1046) Why is a high wind like a dumb man in distress?
Because it makes moving signs.

* * *

- (1047) Why is a sleepy servant like a warming pan?
Because he's in bed before his master!

* * *

- (1048) Why is a rich farmer like a man with bad teeth?
Because he has a good many achers (acres)!

* * *

- (1049) Why is a smith like a ferryman?
Because his business is to work ore!

* * *

- (1050) Why is a garter like the gates of a slaughter-house?
Because it holds the stock in (stockin').

* * *

- (1051) Why is paper like a beggar?
Because it is composed of rags!

(1052) What benefit can be derived from a paper of pins?

They will give you a good many points!

* * *

(1053) Why is it difficult to flirt on a mail steamer?
Because all the mails (males) are tied up!

* * *

(1054) Why would a pelican make a good lawyer?
He knows how to stretch his bill!

* * *

(1055) When is a man incapable of performing a bare-faced action?

When he wears a heavy beard and a mustache!

* * *

(1056) Why is a thief a philosopher?
Because he is given to fits of abstraction!

* * *

(1057) Why is it illegal for a man to possess a short walking stick?

Because it can never be-long to him!

* * *

(1058) Why is a person who asks questions the strangest of all individuals?

Because he is the querist!

* * *

(1059) Why is a cook like a barber?
He dresses hare (hair)!

* * *

(1060) Why are two watches given as prizes like a happy married couple?

Because, though they are two, yet they are one
(won)!

* * *

(1061) Why is a man with corns on his feet like a
vegetable?

Because he is a tomato (toe martyr)!

* * *

(1062) Why is the meeting of lovers like a battle?

Because there is an amy-y presentation!

* * *

(1063) If a general should ask in vain for martial
music, what word would embody his request?

Conundrum (can none drum)!

* * *

(1064) Why is a fancy dancer like an old-fashioned
country woman?

Because she reels and spins!

* * *

(1065) In what constellation are the two shooting
stars which never go down?

In Ursa Major, the pointers; they never go down
because they are not setters!

* * *

(1066) Why is coal the most contradictory article
known to commerce?

Because when purchased it goes to the seller (cellar)!

* * *

(1067) Why is a lance like the moon?

Because both are a glory of the night (knight)!

(1068) When can you carry water in a sieve?
When it is ice!

* * *

(1069) Why should you never run for a 12:50 train?
Because ten to one you will miss it!

* * *

(1070) How does Patrick propose to get over his
single blessedness?
By proposing to Bridget (bridge it).

* * *

(1071) Why is your favorite puppy like a doll?
Because it is a pup-pet!

* * *

(1072) What is the most suitable dance to wind up
a frolic?
A reel!

* * *

(1073) Of what trade is the sun?
A tanner!

* * *

(1074) Why are bullets like tender glances?
Because they are intended to pierce hearts!

* * *

(1075) When is a ship in love?
When it seeks a mate!

* * *

(1076) When is a ship demonstratively in love?
When she hugs the shore!

(1077) What sort of instrument resembles a bad hotel?

A vile-inn (violin).

* * *

(1078) When is water most likely to escape?
When it is half-tide!

* * *

(1079) Plant a puppy and what would come up?
Dog Wood!

* * *

(1080) When does a man stand a good chance of being completely sewn up?

When he has a stitch in his side!

* * *

(1081) What is the gentlest kind of spur?
Whis-spur!

* * *

(1082) Why should soldiers never meddle with nut-crackers?

Because they make the shells burst on the kernel (colonel)!

* * *

(1083) Why is a hammer like a general?

Because it goes to the head and settles the point of a tack (attack)!

* * *

(1084) What is the best material for kites?

Fly paper.

* * *

(1085) Why should one never complain of the price of a railroad ticket?

Because it is a *fare* thing!

(1086) Where does one see breakers ahead on land?
At a railway station!

* * *

(1087) What is a heavy incidental expense?
Having a tooth filled!

* * *

(1088) How do locomotives hear?
Through their engine-ears!

* * *

(1089) What is the great motive for traveling?
The loco-motive!

* * *

(1090) Why is a rate of fare on a railroad like an
overcharged gun?
Because it is too much for the charge!

* * *

(1091) When is a U. S. soldier like a man with a
ragged coat?
When he is out under arms.

* * *

(1092) Why can boarding house guests dine off the
gong?
Because it's a-rousing dinner!

* * *

(1093) Why is a retired actor like an extortionist?
Because he's an ex-actor!

* * *

(1094) How can an actress appear in two pieces in
one evening?
Because she's takin' a part (taken apart)!

(1095) Why is a ball discharged in the air like an article for soldiers' comfort?

Because it's a blanket (blank hit).

* * *

(1096) Why is a steel-trap like the small pox?

Because it is catching!

* * *

(1097) Why is a false oath like a trial in the criminal court?

Because it is per-jury.

* * *

(1098) What nation has always overcome in the end?
Determination.

* * *

(1099) What is an Englishman's notion of a woman's mission?

Sub-mission!

* * *

(1100) What did the sunbeam say to the violet?
"Wilt thou?" and she wilted!

* * *

(1101) What rose is born to blush unseen?
Neg-roes.

* * *

(1102) What is more moist than a young lady with a waterfall on her head, a cataract in her eye, a little lake on each cheek, hightide shoes, and a crick in her back?

One with a notion (an ocean) in her head!

(1103) Why is a photograph like a member of Congress?

Because it's a representative.

* * *

(1104) Why may a dyspeptic hope for a long life?

Because he can't die just (digest) now!

* * *

(1105) If you were to swallow a man, what kind would you prefer?

A little London porter!

* * *

(1106) What hands work day and night, yet never tire or get worn?

Clock hands.

* * *

(1107) What is the best description of "rapid consumption"?

Bolting one's food

* * *

(1108) Why does a fox-hound wag his tail?

Because he is stronger than his tail, otherwise his tail would wag him!

* * *

(1109) Why is the rudder of a steamboat like a hangman?

Because it has a stern duty to perform.

* * *

(1110) When does the House of Representatives present the most ludicrous of spectacles?

When its eyes (ayes) are on one side, and its nose (noes) on the other.

(1111) Why is a love of the ocean like curiosity?
Because it has sent many a boy to see (sea).

* * *

(1112) Why is the present moment like refuse?
It's come (scum)!

* * *

(1113) How can you shoot a hundred and twenty
hares at a shot?
Shoot at a wig!

* * *

(1114) Why is a four-quart measure like a side-
saddle?
They both hold a gal(l)on!

* * *

(1115) Why is a Jew in a fever like the celebrated
Koh-i-noor diamond?
Because he's a Jew-ill.

* * *

(1116) Why is an undutiful son like one born deaf?
Because your voice is lost upon him.

* * *

(1117) Where is the cheapest place to buy poultry?
At the state bath house, for you can always get a
duck for a dime.

* * *

(1118) What is the worst kind of fare for a man to
live on?
War-fare!

* * *

(1119) How does a ray of light get through a prism?
It hews (hues) its way through!

(1120) When does English butter become Irish butter?

When made into little Pats!

* * *

(1121) Which are the most seasonable clothes?
Pepper and salt!

* * *

(1122) Why is a good pun like a good cat?
Because it requires pause (paws)!

* * *

(1123) When is there a bad audience at the theater when the pit is full?

When it is a pit-i-ful house!

* * *

(1124) In what sort of family does the seventh night of the week come on the sixth?

In that sort of family where Saturday is a bath night (is Sabbath night).

* * *

(1125) Why is gritty coffee like the subway?
Because it's underground!

* * *

(1126) Why ought venison to be only half-cooked?
Because what is done cannot be helped.

* * *

(1127) What is Majesty deprived of its externals?
A jest (Ma-jest-y)!

* * *

(1128) What is the difference between love and war?
One breaks hearts, the other heads!

(1129) What bus found room for the greatest number of people?

Colum-bus!

* * *

(1130) What is the difference between a volunteer and an omelet?

One is equipped to go forth, the other whipped to go froth.

* * *

(1131) What kind of pen does a plagiarist use?
Steel!

* * *

(1132) Of what profession is every child?
A player.

* * *

(1133) Why is troy weight like an unconscientious person?

Because it has no scruples.

* * *

(1134) When is a boat like snow?
When it is a-drift!

* * *

(1135) How should love come to the door?
With a ring!

* * *

(1136) Where have you the most extended view?
In a hop-garden, for then you see from pole to pole!

* * *

(1137) Why is the science of self defense like low tide?

Because it develops the muscles.

(1138) What burns to keep a secret?
Sealing wax.

* * *

(1139) What is the brightest idea of the day?
Your eye, dear!

* * *

(1140) When does a man sneeze three times?
When he can't help it!

* * *

(1141) What goes under the water, over the water,
yet never touches the water?

A woman crossing a bridge with a pail of water on
her head.

* * *

(1142) How is a poultry-keeper compelled to earn
his living?

By fowl means!

* * *

(1143) Why is a butcher's cart like his topboots?
Because he carries his calves there!

* * *

(1144) What is that which every man overlooks?
His nose.

* * *

(1145) What were the last words of the bugler who
was gored by the bull?

"Blow the horns!"

* * *

(1146) What have feet and walk not?
Stoves!

(1147) What have noses but smell not?
Teapots!

* * *

(1148) What have ears but hear not?
Cornstalks.

* * *

(1149) What have tongues but talk not?
Wagons!

* * *

(1150) Why do we all go to bed?
Because the bed will not come to us!

* * *

(1151) What is higher (and maybe handsomer) when
the head is off?
A pillow.

* * *

(1152) What does a coin set in the center of the
table amidst a room full of people do?
It looks round!

* * *

(1153) What impermeable fabric is like a sparrow?
Gutta percha (gutter percher)!

* * *

(1154) When may a loaf be said to be inhabited?
When it has a little Indian in it!

* * *

(1155) Why does a rope-dancer invariably repeat his
performances?
Because they are encorded (on cord)!

* * *

(1156) Why are sailors bad horsemen?
Because they ride on the Main (mane)!

(1157) When is a knocker like a condemned thief?
When it's tied up to prevent disturbance!

* * *

(1158) Why is a honest man like orange chips?
Because he's candi(e)d!

* * *

(1159) Why is a theater like a punch bowl?
Because it's best when full! Yes, indeed!

* * *

(1160) Why is it no offense to conspire in the evening?
What is treasonable is reasonable after T(ea)!

* * *

(1161) Why is a corpse like a man with a cold?
Because he's took to a-coughing.

* * *

(1162) What sea is traveled o'er by clever people?
Brilliancy.

* * *

(1163) What is worse than raining cats and dogs?
Hailing street cars!

* * *

(1164) When is an omnibus dangerous?
When the people walk over your head!

* * *

(1165) What constellation resembles an empty fireplace?
The grate bare (Great Bear)!

(1166) What is the last remedy for a smokey chimney?

Putting the fire out.

* * *

(1167) Why is clever wit like a chemist?

Because he has many a good retort!

* * *

(1168) Why is a mouse entering a mouse trap like a diplomat arguing his policy?

Because each has a well-defined end in view!

* * *

(1169) Which is the merriest sauce?

Caper sauce!

* * *

(1170) Why is a lead pencil like a perverse child?

Because it never does right (write) by itself!

* * *

(1171) At what time of life does man belong to the vegetable kingdom?

When experience has made him sage.

* * *

(1172) When is a sailor not a sailor?

When he is a-loft!

* * *

(1173) Why is the road-bed laborer on a railroad like a hunted bear in the mountains?

Because he makes tracks for his life.

* * *

(1174) Why is a congreve-box without matches superior to all other boxes?

Because it is matchless!

(1175) What is that which goes with a train, comes with a train, is no use to the train, yet the train cannot go without it?

Noise!

* * *

(1176) What trade never turns to the left?

A wheelwright!

* * *

(1177) Why is electricity like absent policemen?

Because it is an invisible force!

* * *

(1178) What color does a boy turn if he's pinched?

Yell-O!

* * *

(1179) When is a borough like a ship?

When it is under canvass!

* * *

(1180) When does a man's hair resemble a packing box?

When it's standing on end!

* * *

(1181) When is silence likely to get wet?

When it reigns (rains)!

* * *

(1182) Why is a muddy road the guardian of public safety?

Because it reduces the speed of autos.

* * *

(1183) What is that which becomes the younger the longer it exists?

A portrait!

(1184) Why is a lamp like a house?
Because it has a chimney!

* * *

(1185) Why is a committee of inquiry like a cannon?
Because it makes a report!

* * *

(1186) What is the most popular paper at a summer resort?
Flypaper!

* * *

(1187) What coat is finished without buttons, and put on wet?
A coat of paint!

* * *

(1188) When is a book like a king?
When it has many pages!

* * *

(1189) When is a tree like a penny?
When it has a date on it!

* * *

(1190) Wit, to wit, is the wit to twit the witless; to titillate the titterers.

* * *

(1191) When is a thistle like a brush?
When it bristles!

* * *

(1192) What great statesman buried the hatchet?
George Washington, when he cut down the cherry tree.

* * *

(1193) What did the Germans think of after the First Offensive?
Ve're done! (Verdun.)

(1194) When did the British procure moral support during the World War?

When they brought new zeal in (New Zealand).

* * *

(1195) What is the vast, very vast, spiritual difference, between Napoleon and the ex-Kaiser William?

One went to St. Helena, the other to the Nether lands.

* * *

(1196) Why didn't the Germans make Paris according to their schedule?

Because they tarried on the fateful morn (Marne).

* * *

(1197) When is a trench uncovered?

When it's (a) dugout!

* * *

(1198) When did the Germans have a sense of defeat?

When they got their shot o' theory (Chateau Thierry).

* * *

(1199) When is a Kaiser not a Kaiser?

When he's Doo(r)med!

* * *

(1200) Why is Bootleggers' Gin like embalming fluid?

Because it lays you out.

* * *

(1201) What has no limit, yet has a limit, and is the limit?

The three mile limit.

* * *

(1202) Why is a hollow like a servant?

Because it's a valet!

(1203) What bridal flower has lost its intoxication?
The Orange Blossom!

* * *

(1204) Why is an installment like hard "likker"?
Because it's mountain dew (mountin' due)

* * *

(1205) Why would a bootlegger make a good sea-
man?
Because he could sell (sail) a schooner.

* * *

(1206) Why is Babe Ruth a cigarette manufacturer?
Because he makes Home runs out of Lucky Strikes.

* * *

(1207) When does a man most feel like a monkey?
When he's feeling gland!

* * *

(1208) Which reminds us, when is a man most like
his ancestors?
When—oh dear, he's a monkey!

* * *

(1209) What state is Germany most in need of?
A state of repair(ations).

* * *

(1210) When did the French emulate the bees?
When they settled the Rhone.

* * *

(1211) When is a Cockney mule like an American
politician?
When he is Bryan(Ooooo).

SECTION XV,

CHARADES



CHARADES

(1212) My *first* is my *second* and my *whole*.

Pa-pa.

* * *

(1213) My *second* contains my *first*; and, therefore, it is my *whole*.

Light-house.

* * *

(1214) My *first* is a vowel. My *second* may be a sound, or not a sound; it may be high or low, moral or wicked, loud or soft. My *whole* is the best sign of repentance.

A-tone.

* * *

(1215) My *second* worried my *first*, and proved himself my *whole*.

Bull-dog.

* * *

(1216) Never make my *first* and *second* in any cause which you are afraid to my *whole*.

A-vow.

* * *

(1217) In my *first* my *second* sat, my *third* and *fourth* I ate.

In-sat-i-ate!

* * *

(1218) My *first* is very much like my *second*, and my *whole* a shield against both is reckoned.

Spatter-dash.

(1219) My *first* is a reflection, my *second* not so much, my *whole* none at all.

Thought-less.

* * *

(1220) My *first* I do, and my *second*—when I say you are my *whole*—I do not.

Love-lie (lovely).

* * *

(1221) My *first* is the cause of my *second*, and my *whole* ought never to be broken, though unless it be holy, and be kept so, you can't keep it at all!

Sunday.

* * *

(1222) My *first* is a prop, my *second's* a prop, and my *whole* is a prop.

Foot-stool.

* * *

(1223) My *first* is not, nor is my *second*, and there is no doubt that until you have guessed this puzzle, you may reckon it my *whole*.

Non-plus!

* * *

(1224) My *first* is to spoil, my *second* is a vowel, my *third* is a precious metal, my *whole* is a flower.

Mar-i-gold.

* * *

(1225) My *first* is a participle, my *second* is part of a suit, my *third* is a letter, my *fourth* is used in front of houses, my *whole* is to examine.

In-vest-i-gate.

(1226) My *first* is useful to the earth, my *second* is worn on dresses, and was at one time used in war, and my *whole* is seen in the sky.

Rain-bow.

* * *

(1227) My *first* is an animal, my *second* is an article, my *third* goes with a brush, and my *whole* is a place for the dead.

Cat-a-comb.

* * *

(1228) My *first* is a weapon, my *second* lives in the sea, my *whole* is a species of fish found in warm climates.

Sword-fish.

* * *

(1229) My *first* is a vehicle, my *second* is a preposition, my *whole* is part of a ship.

Cab-in.

* * *

(1230) My *first* is a grain, my *second* is part of a house, my *whole* is an English county.

Corn-wall.

* * *

(1231) My *first* is a liquid, my *second* is a fish, my *whole* is a whisper.

Ink-ling.

* * *

(1232) My *first* is formal, my *second* is a flower, my *whole* is a flower.

Prim-rose.

* * *

(1233) My *first* is a color, my *second* is a workman, my *whole* is a workman.

Black-smith.

(1234) My *first* is a human being, my *second* is to walk, my *whole* is an Indian fruit.

Man-go.

* * *

(1235) My *first* is what all do after sleeping, my *second* is a plot of ground, my *whole*, a town in Massachusetts.

Wake-field.

* * *

(1236) My *first* is an important portion of the human body, my *second* a collection of water, my *whole*, an English city.

Liver-pool.

* * *

(1237) My *first* is an article of furniture, my *second* where a baby sleeps, my *whole* a town in England.

Pres-cot.

* * *

(1238) My *first* is the product of my *second*, and my *whole* is pleasant to romp in.

Hay-field.

* * *

(1239) I'm found in nearly all sorts of houses, and am patronized alike by old and young, male and female, gentle and simple. Of my *first* is made my *second*, and my *second* backs my *first*. My *whole* is used to keep my first in order.

Hair-brush.

* * *

(1240) Round my *first* has ever been,
Round it *second* must be seen,
Always in my *third* I mean.
Fourth a goddess dire and dread
Entire, or without her head.

All say simply "judge between."
Discriminate: disc, rim, in, Ate, Fate.

* * *

(1241) O'er distant hills the rising moon
The evening mist dispersed,
And beaming in the radiant sky
She plainly showed my *first*.

A horseman guided by her light
Approached with headlong speed,
And, as he rode, my *second* said
To urge his flagging steed.

His lady waited at the gate,
Though trysting hour was past;
She was my *whole*, because her lord
Was then my *third and last*!
Disconsolate: Disc-on-so-late.

(1242) A product of coniferous trees,
A hardy toiler of the seas;
These make, when joined and matched,
A Russian scratched.

I make this statement wholly on
The authority of Napoleon.

Tartar.

* * *

(1243) The reindeer fattens on my *first*,
My *second* would disdain it,
An army marched full many a verst
To take my *whole* with gun and bay'net.

Moscow.

- (1244) O Maiden, with your lips apart!
You know my *first*, and feel its smart.

My *last*, the path of dalliance, leads
'Twixt hedges sweet to flowery meads.

We call my *whole* a man of prayer;
What need of further praise is there?

Chaplain.

* * *

- (1245) My *first* applauds an actress nice,
My *second* catches men and mice,
My *whole* is just a cheap device.

Claptrap.

* * *

- (1246) My *first* once made the Romans fear,
My *last* falls soft on lady's ear,
My *whole* delights to chase the deer.

Huntress.

* * *

- (1247) My *first* is just a cad—I trust you know
What that is, I do not; he is one, though.
My *last* was called ridiculous, but why?
Perhaps he's no more so than you or I;
He's got that name, however, and 't will stick.
My *whole* was once a dentist, I suppose,
Who "Teeth Implanted," but a story grows
In telling. As the Spaniards say, who knows?
For now the legend is, he sowed them, thick.

Cadmus (who sowed the dragon's teeth.)

- (1248) Although it was a base my *whole*,
The umpire cried, "My *first* at first,"
The player who to second stole,
A second in my *second* cursed,
Then turned upon his heel about:
No wonder that he was put out.

Outcast.

* * *

- (1249) If milk be added to my *first*,
You have an antidote for thirst.

A blade of grass my *second*, or
A weapon to attack a boar.

My *whole* has held for many a year
The prince of poets without peer;
Now comes a reputation-knifer
To make him out the merest cypher.
Unless I'm very much mistaken,
He can't succeed, to save his bacon.

Shakespeare.

* * *

- (1250) My *first* must be below the ground
To do its proper duty;
Within my *second* may be found
Chaps that can boast no beauty,
Some cottage garden holds the two combined,
Old-fashioned emblem of a candid mind.

Hone-sty; honesty.



SECTION XVI

TABLE PUZZLES



PUZZLES

Although this is essentially a book of riddles and conundrums, we have been prompted to include some ninety-four different Word, Pencil and Table Puzzles. Many of these, strictly speaking, are members of the Riddle family, simply handled differently.

As is explained in the Preface, the growing popularity of these interesting complexities for party use gives them a close relation to the main subject. And while there are many more comprehensive books on entertaining from which you can draw a fund of just such amusements, this brief section may suffice for those who are not in need of such exhaustive help.

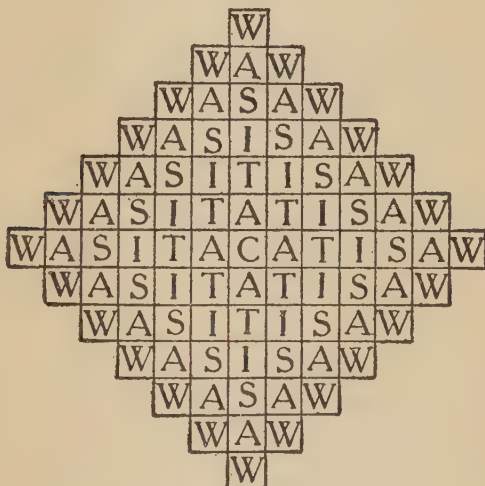
With the exception of several simple match tricks, the following puzzles can all be worked out either mentally or with paper and pencil. Card tricks, magic and other parlor diversions constitute a distinct field and have no particular connection with our subject.

It must be understood that the intention of the editor has not been to give a complete collection of puzzles—it has been merely to present a fair assortment of problems, gathered from various sources, that seem suitable for use at a dinner table or among an informal gathering.



TABLE PUZZLES

This maze contains the complete sentence: "Was it a cat I saw?" a number of times. The game is to figure out the number of times you can trace it in different directions.



Solution: Sam Lloyd, the puzzle-wizard, says that the words, "Was it a cat I saw," can be traced in 63,584 different directions! How close were you to the answer?

* * *

This is a Magic Addition puzzle. Can you find out how the inventor of this unique problem has arrived at his total? The total is absolutely correct, too!

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

$$\begin{array}{r} 3414 \\ 340 \\ 74813 \\ \hline 43374813 \\ \hline \hline \end{array}$$

If you're trying to do it by straight addition, you had better stop. Instead, hold it up in front of a mirror—and it will become:

NINE
ONE
EIGHT

EIGHTEEN

* * *

ALCUIN'S RIDDLE

This will be recognized as perhaps the most ancient British riddle in existence, though there are several versions.

Three jealous husbands with their wives had to cross a river at night, rowing themselves in a small boat which would only carry two persons at a time. How did they contrive to keep each one with his own wife and never leave her in another man's company?

Solution: A. first of all rowed his wife over, then returns to the other side, where the remaining ladies

TABLE PUZZLES

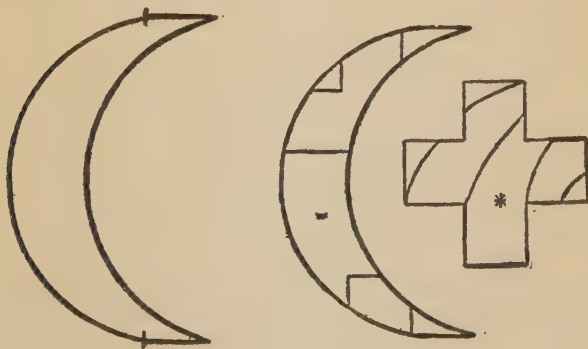
took his place. These having crossed, A.'s wife rowed back again, and stayed with her husband while B. and C. went over, B. and his lady returning. A. and B. took the next trip together, and C.'s wife returned, and gave place to the wives of A. and B. Lastly C. returned for his own wife, and all were reunited—after a most unnecessary amount of exertion!

* * *

THE CONSTANTINOPLE PUZZLE

You may need scissors for this one! But all you have to do is divide the crescent into six parts so that they can be put together again in the perfect shape of a Greek cross. (Notice that the outer edges of the crescent's points are *straight*.)

Solution:



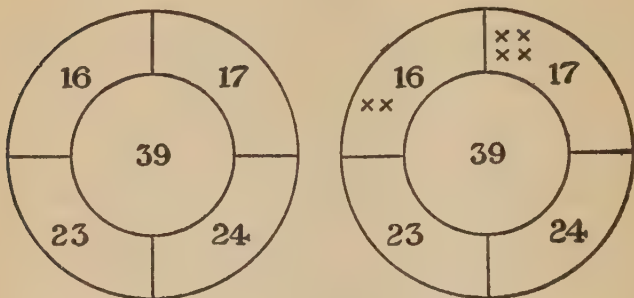
* * *

Here we have some target practice! With the five sections of this circle rated as they are, how many

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

shots would you have to fire, and where would they have to hit, in order to give you an even 100?

Target Solution:



Six shots: Two counting 16 each and four counting 17 each. Indicated by x's on right.

* * *

THE ABSURD TALE

The object in telling this story is for the audience to discover an absurdity, or rather something that is utterly impossible. On the face of it the tale seems closely allied to a fairy story, still it may require application to point a finger at the one actual flaw.

A very charming young man went to Egypt and while there he encountered a party of archæologists. They had with them some really delightful women, and as he was gay and light hearted the days flew quickly by. It happened, however, that the ladies had cause to leave and the unfortunate young man, becoming increasingly bored with the technical conversation of

the archæologists, decided to set out and explore the country for himself, and leave them to their musty antiquities.

He had been strolling round the Pyramids when an Arab offered to conduct him to the more interesting places and give him moreover an historical account of the tombs of the kings. They were thus engaged when the young man discovered a Roman coin marked 50 B.C. in the sand, he put it in his pocket intending to speak of it to his friends the archæologists, but soon forgot all about it.

Two weeks later he sailed for New York, and while walking on Fifth Avenue one day, he purchased a bag of peaches, the next morning he was found dead in his hotel room!

Solution: The coin's date should have been 50—not 50 B.C. It would be impossible for a coin made before the Christian era to be marked "B.C."

* * *

ACHILLES AND THE TORTOISE

The following problem has puzzled intellects for centuries. Achilles, the personification of fleetness of foot, is to run against a tortoise, which can travel at one tenth his speed. In a two hundred yards' race Achilles concedes the tortoise one hundred yards' start. It is obvious, you may say, that Achilles will arrive at the winning post far ahead of his opponent. But let us see what happens. By the time Achilles reaches the point whence the tortoise started, the tortoise will evidently have advanced ten yards. While Achilles covers these ten yards, the tortoise puts on another

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

yard; and another tenth of a yard while the warrior covers the yard. And so on. Achilles gets infinitely near the tortoise, but logically can *never* catch him, though we all know well enough that a single stride might appear to put him in advance. Where's the fallacy? The argument on the non-overtaking side seems to be without a flaw. The reader may think he sees a weak spot, yet learned mathematicians have had difficulty in proving to their own satisfaction what the trouble is, and it must be admitted that to the ordinary mind their elaborate explanations are difficult to follow.

* * *

THE MENAGERIE

A menagerie proprietor was once asked how many beasts and birds he had on exhibition. Instead of replying directly he said: "Well, there are thirty-six heads and a hundred feet between the lot." How were they distributed?

Solution: Fourteen beasts would have 56 feet; twenty-two birds would have 44 feet: $56 + 44 = 100$.

* * *

THE MEASURES PUZZLE

A boy was sent to the shop to buy half a gallon of oil. He took with him a can of exactly one gallon capacity. When he reached the shop the clerk said, "I have no half gallon measure; but here are two measures, one holding five pints, the other three pints,

TABLE PUZZLES

and with the aid of your can, I shall be able to measure out exactly half a gallon." How did he do it?

Solution: Stage 1, he fills the 5-pint measure; stage 2, he fills the 3-pint from the 5-pint; stage 3, he empties the 3-pint into the 8-pint; stage 4, he empties the 3-pint into the 5-pint and adds enough of the latter to fill it; stage 5, he fills up the 3-pint from the 5-pint. There are now 2, 2, and 3 pints in the 8-pint, 5-pint, and 3-pint measures respectively—so it is only necessary to empty the second into the first.

* * *

THE ESCAPING PRISONERS

Three persons were kept captives in a high tower—a father, his daughter, and their faithful maid. They were supplied with food by means of a couple of buckets working over a pulley fastened close below the window outside, the rope being just long enough to allow one bucket to rest on the ground when the other was at the window. The rope was covered in so that they could not get at it with their hands; but when supplies had been placed in the lower bucket they dropped a weight into the upper one, which then descended, pulling up the load.

At last they resolved to escape by utilizing the buckets as a forlorn hope. The father weighed 195 lbs.; the daughter 105 lbs.; and the little maid 90 lbs.; the weight they used was 75 lbs. Now if the descending bucket and its contents weighed over 151 lbs. more than the other, it moved too quickly to be safe for human beings when the ground was struck. And a bucket could only contain two persons at a time, or one per-

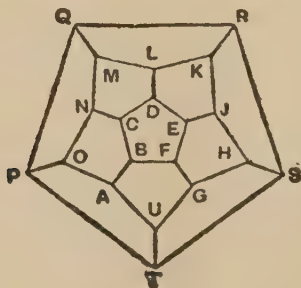
RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

son, and the weight. How did they contrive their escape?

Solution: The maid went down first, the weight in the other bucket coming up. The prisoners removed the weight, and the daughter took its place, the maid remaining in her bucket, and coming up again. The weight was next sent down alone, the daughter got in with it, and thus her father was enabled to descend in safety. The daughter and maid then sent down the weight, which enabled the maid to descend once more. Her mistress removed the weight, and went down, the girl again passing her on the way. Finally, maid and weight respectively occupied the buckets on their last journey, and the third prisoner landed on the ground free!

* * *

Starting at Points D, C, E, B, or F, trace a course that will take you through every other lettered section *once only*, returning you to the starting point:



One of the several possible courses is as follows: Starting at F—B, A, U, T, S, R, K, L, M, Q, P, O, N, C, D, E, J, H, G, F.

TABLE PUZZLES

Crossette.—Draw ten circles in a ring (see diagram). Start from any one and, calling that No. 1, the next No. 2, and so on, across off No. 4. Then start again from any circle not crossed out, and count in either direction. Again cross off No. 4. This has to be continued until all the circles but one have been crossed out. Crossed-out circles must not be started from,



but count in the four. The difficulty is to arrange matters so that No. 4 shall in every case be a blank.

* * *

The Thirty-four Puzzle: Arrange the numbers 1 to 16 inclusive in a square counting 34 in all directions. The diagram gives one specimen but there are other arrangements possible.

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

A solution of the Thirty-four Puzzle.

4	9	5	16
14	7	11	2
15	6	10	3
1	12	8	13

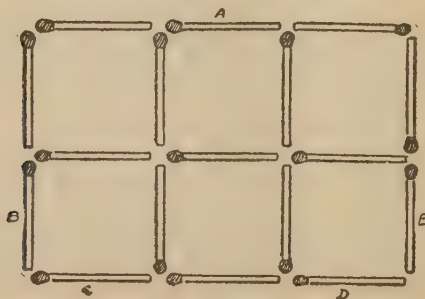
* * *

PUZZLES WITH MATCHES

To form Four Triangles with Six Matches.—Three are laid on the table to make an equilateral triangle. The other three are stood up on the angles of this triangle with their heads touching. The six matches thus constitute the outline of a three-sided pyramid.

* * *

A Square Puzzle.—Arrange seventeen matches as in Fig c, to form six complete squares. The problem is to remove five matches and leave three complete squares. The matches to be taken away are marked A, B, C, D, and E. (See illustration attached.)



BOY SCOUTS' BRIDGE

Sixteen matchsticks are formed into two squares, the smaller one composed of four matches is placed on the center and is supposed to represent an island, the space between the two squares representing water. Two boy scouts carrying their poles desired to cross to the island, and were able to make a bridge above the water. How did they manage?

Solution: Place one pole (matchstick) across the lower corner of the outer square, and the other matchstick will then be found long enough to reach across from the first matchstick to the opposite corner of the small center square without touching the water.

* * *

EASY MULTIPLICATION

Hand a quantity of matches to some of the guests and request that two numbers of matchsticks be laid out on the table, which on being multiplied together will make seven. None of the sticks may be broken.

Solution: The two numbers are one and seven!

* * *

Five matchsticks are handed to one of the company with the request that he will endeavor to make nineteen of them without breaking any. Also when he has made nineteen he must further make twenty by taking one away.

Nineteen is made in the form of Roman numerals, XIX.

Six matchsticks are laid on the table in a row, five matchsticks are now given one of the guests who is asked to add them to the six so as to make 9 of the 11 sticks. The 6 matchsticks on the table must not be disturbed and all 11 must be utilized.

Solution: Resort to spelling, making NINE of the 11 matchsticks.

* * *

Five matchsticks are placed upon a plate, the guest is then asked how it is possible for five persons each to take a matchstick and yet leave one on the plate.

Solution: The performer requests four persons to take a matchstick and after this he lifts the plate with the matchstick lying there undisturbed.

* * *

A gentleman sent his servant with a present of nine ducks in a box, upon which was written the following:

"TO ALDERMAN GOBBLE WITH IX DUCKS"

The servant purloined three of the ducks and contrived it so that the number in the box corresponded with that upon the label. As he neither erased a word, or any letter, nor substituted a new label, how did he alter it so as to correspond with the contents of the box?

He simply placed the letter S before the two Roman numerals, it then read:

"TO ALDERMAN GOBBLE WITH SIX DUCKS"

TABLE PUZZLES

If a barrel of flour cost 39 dollars, 13 and $\frac{3}{4}$ cents, what will a nickel loaf come to?

It will come to a nickel.

* * *

Ask a person to think of a number, then to double it, then to add a certain figure to it, now halve the whole sum, and finally to subtract from that the figure first thought of. You are then to tell the thinker what the remainder is.

The solution is that half of whatever sum you request to be *added* during the working of the sum *is the remainder*.

Thus:

Number thought of...	7	
Doubled	14	
10 added to it.....	10	(Key number; half of this is
	—	the answer)
Halve it	24	
Which leaves	12	
Subtract Original No..	7	
	—	
Remainder is	5	

somewhat similar example of Mystic Calculation is the following "old timer" among parlor puzzles for discovering a person's age:

Ask him to write down in figures the date and month of his birth. Thus if he was born on the ninth of January he would set down 91.

Tell him to multiply the number thus formed by 2;

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

then to add 5; then to multiply by 50; then to add his age last birthday, and finally to add 365.

You must not see any of these figures, but when he hands to you the total you have only to subtract from it 615, and his age is revealed, and its date.

Thus a person 23 years old, born on the 7th of April, writes:

	74
Multiplies by 2	2

	148
Adds 5	5

	153
Multiplies by 50	50

	7650
Adds his age	23

	7673
Adds	365

	8038

He hands these final figures to you on a slip of paper, and you subtract from them 615.

8038
615

7423

This reveals to you at a glance the date of his birth and his age, 7th day of 4th month, 23!

TABLE PUZZLES

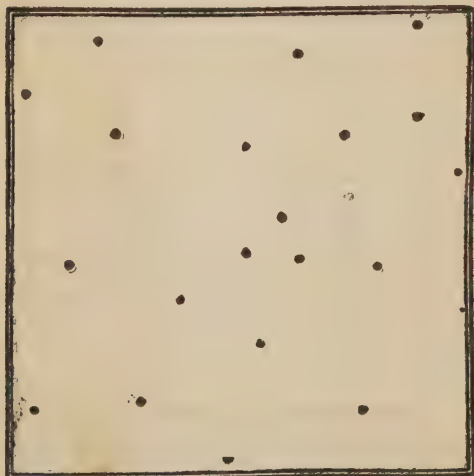
A man has a wolf, a goat and a cabbage to carry over a river, but he can only convey them one at a time as the boat is small. How is he to manage this, so that the wolf may not be left alone with the goat, nor the goat with the cabbage?

Solution: He first takes over the goat, and then returns for the wolf; he then takes back the goat, which he leaves and takes over the cabbage. He then returns and takes over the goat!

* * *

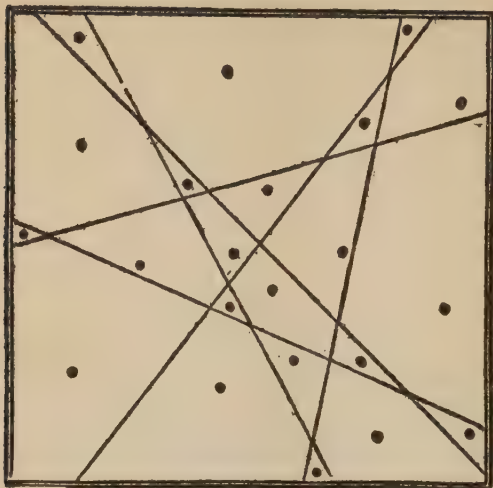
There is a plot of ground with 22 trees on it, the spots representing trees. Can you build a series of fences, using only six straight lines, that will enclose each of the 22 trees so that it stands alone?

The Plot



RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

The Solution:



* * *

Demonstrate mathematically that one is equal to two.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}
 a &= x \\
 ax &= x^2 \\
 ax - a^2 &= x^2 - a^2 \\
 (x - a) \times a &= (x - a) \times (x + a) \\
 a &= x + a \\
 a &= 2a \\
 1 &= 2
 \end{aligned}$$

* * *

The object of this interesting arithmetical puzzle is to complete the vacant circles with whatever numbers will make the columns add to 1910 in every direction:

TABLE PUZZLES

The Problem:

			1891
	1889		
1892			
		1890	

The Solution:

10	8	1	1891
3	1889	12	6
1892	2	7	9
5	11	1890	4

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

This is a well-known "Four-Square Magic Square" Puzzle. The game is to fill each of the four empty cells in the four "inside squares" with the *same four numbers* in the *same relative positions* so that each *full-sized square* adds up to 34 in all directions:

The Problem:

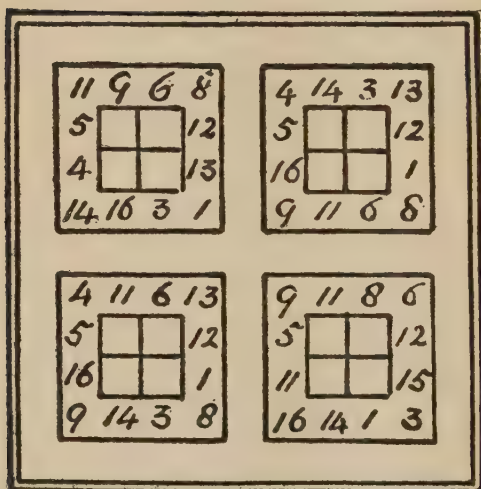


TABLE PUZZLES

The Solution:

The magic numbers are 7, 2, 10 and 15, arranged as follows:

11	9	6	8
5	7	10	12
4	2	15	13
14	16	3	1

4	14	3	13
5	7	10	12
16	2	15	1
9	11	6	8

4	11	6	13
5	7	10	12
16	2	15	1
9	14	3	8

9	11	8	6
5	7	10	12
4	2	15	13
16	14	1	3

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

MAGIC ARITHMETIC SQUARES

This is a Magic Square. As it stands with the circles empty, it adds up to 74 in many different directions. The problem is to fill the circles with numbers which will add up, in all ways, to 111.

31	8	(22)	(15)	30	5
(20)	(11)	(24)	(16)	(28)	(12)
(17)	(26)	(13)	(21)	(9)	(25)
34	1	(23)	(14)	35	4
7	32	(10)	(27)	6	29
2	33	(19)	(18)	3	36

For party use, draw the square on sheets of paper, leaving the circles blank. Then allow the guests ten or twenty minutes in which to complete the problem.

* * *

A simpler Magic Square calls for the insertion in the open squares of those numbers which will add up, from side to side, to 143. Only double numbers can be used:

TABLE PUZZLES

The Problem :

17				24
	32		46	
		14		
	19		16	
22				20

The Solution :

17	(30)	(41)	(31)	24
(18)	32	(13)	46	(34)
(11)	(12)	14	(50)	(56)
(51)	19	(42)	16	(15)
22	(21)	(35)	(45)	20



SECTION XVII

WORD PUZZLES



WORD PUZZLES

The names of eight British poets are concealed in this verse. By printing the right letters in capitals you can readily discover the names. For party use, just copy the rhyme in the usual way and have the guests figure out the poets:

The sun is dartinG RAYs of gold
Upon the MOORE, Enchanting spot,
Whose purple heights, BY RONald loved,
UP OPEN to his shepherd cot.
And sunDRY DENizens of air
Are flyinG, AYe each to his nest;
And eager maKE AT Such an hour
All haste to reach tHE MANSions blest.

The words are: Gray, Moore, Byron, Pope, Dryden, Gay, Keats and Hemans.

* * *

The missing words in each of these three uncompleted lines have exactly the same letters in them:

Who.....in all pride and rage,
To.....vice a prey,
May hope to reach a green old age,
And find.....his stay.
The words are *reineth, neither and therein.*

* * *

Four animals and a bird are hidden in this sentence, as follows:

"Come hithER, MINE friend," said the German MONK, EYeing him kindly, "BE A VERy good boy, step through the furZE BRAvely, and seek the lOST RICHes."

The words are: Ermine, Monkey, Beaver, Zebra and Ostrich.

* * *

Write out this verse, omitting the words in italics. Then have the guests supply the missing words, telling them only that they are all spelled with the same letters:

The *plates* show ribbons gay in *pleats* and bows,
And blooms of *petals* tinted *palest* rose;
Colored designs in *pastel* first are made
For all our crockery, *staple* of our trade.

* * *

Another variation of this popular type of word-puzzle is the missing words have the same letters but drop one letter each as the verse proceeds. For example:

Rivals in *prowess*, jealous *powers*,
A *poser* grave and grim profound,
We *pore* into the mist that lowers,
Heaven *ope* the way to peace profound!

* * *

Transposition puzzles often cause considerable concern to those who have to turn the letters around into sensible words. It is very easy to work out puzzles like these for any special occasion, the two examples following serving as a pattern.

For instance, you give the guests slips of paper on which are written the following unintelligible words:

Higtaswonn

Itesrpden

Nutom Nervon

Leyalv Gorfe

Serrouvy

Wealadre

Rechyr Erte

Rebrafuy

Tariopt

Sametastn

These are ten words concerning or associated with a famous American statesman of the early days. Translated they are:

Washington

President

Mount Vernon

Valley Forge

Surveyor

Delaware

Cherry Tree

February

Patriot

Statesman

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

If you were trying to think of some amusement to fill in at the dinner table at some anniversary party, for example, you could easily take these ten words, commonly associated with weddings and anniversaries, and twist them into the spelling opposite each one:

Wedding	Gidwdne
License	Nsilece
Sanctuary	Tasyranuc
County Clerk	Oyctnu Lcekr
Anniversary	Nayevinrsan
Matrimony	Orniymatm
Engagement	Teagemngen
Clergyman	Gclremnay
Choir	Hrico
Honeymoon	Eonoyhnom

Transposition puzzles can easily be adapted for use on Place Cards and have the desirable feature of being quickly thought up.

* * *

ENIGMAS, ANAGRAMS and PARADOXES

My whole is less than are the parts,
Just two of which are in it;
And if the rest a big D starts,
They tell time to a minute.

WORD PUZZLES

The solution is the initial letter of the word "initial"
—I. It is less than all the parts of *initial*; it is in *in*
and *it*; the rest, *ial*, with a big D, makes *Dial*.

* * *

To five a fourth of five append,
One-third of one take then;
Let fifty follow, and to end
Affix two-thirds of ten.
Two-thirds of this will yield sweet sounds,
The whole with perfume sweet abounds.

The answer is VIOLET, composed chiefly of Roman Numerals.

* * *

With both feet crossed, sit on a stool,
Then uncross one and find a fool.

The solution is *Foot*—when you uncross the "t" of
foot, you get *fool*.

* * *

For breakfast tea and buttered toast,
When taken with my *first*,
Are excellent to satisfy
Our hunger and our thirst.
For dinner though no turtle soup
May grace our modest table,
My *second*, as a substitute,
We choose when we are able.

The solution is Hammock—*Ham* and *Mock*.

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

Three-fourths of me an act display,
Three-fourths a bed for man;
Three-fourths have legs that cannot stray,
Three-fourths have legs that can.
I have a back without a spine,
An arm without a bone is mine.

The word is *Coat*: act; cot; etc.

* * *

Here is an Enigma which is quite frankly written right out in the lines. The first half is in the first line; the second half in the third line and the whole word in the last line!

To cheer all solvers can I shine
Whene'er my *first* is writ;
With this my *second* did combine
To make a happy hit.
My *whole* so frankly fixed in line,
(Find it who can) did fit.

The word is *Candid*.

* * *

Ten fish I caught without an eye,
And nine without a tail;
Six had no head, and half of eight
I weighed upon the scale.
Now who can tell me, as I ask it,
Now many fish were in my basket?

If you take the numerals 10, 9, 6 and 8, and remove the "eye" (I), the tail and the head from the first three, taking away half of the 8, you will have the answer: O.

WORD PUZZLES

An old Latin Anagram is based on the supposed wit of a student who wrote underneath Byron's line to a dead pig two Latin words, consisting of the same letters, which tell the same story. The poet's line is:

"'Tis grease, but living grease no more."

The student's version was: *Porcus; corpus*—(pig, corpse.)

* * *

The solution of this Paradox is *Heard*: (H-ear-d.)

Though never present, I appear
Of perfect form a token;
And all that centers round my ear
Is heard but never spoken.

* * *

The letter "M" is missing from the following sentence five times. Can you fill it in the proper places:

A DEN I I CAN DOCK

The solution is:

MADMEN MIMIC AND MOCK

* * *

We get a neat little Dinner-time Anagram from the following jumble of letters:

Hand Me Cruet

Your Posset

Try our Steak

One solid Lamb Steamed or Tossed

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

Translated, this reads:

THE MENU CARD

Oyster Soup

Roast Turkey

Boiled Salmon

Dressed Tomatoes

* * *

Allow me, sir, to go as first,
And then as number two;
Then, after these, we find you are
To follow, as is due.

But lest you never guess this queer
And hyperbolic fable,
Pray let there follow, after that,
Whatever may be able.
The answer to this paradox is: **Me-as-u-r-able**
(Measurable).

* * *

Forsaken in some desert vast,
Where never man has dwelt;
Or on some lonely island cast,
Unseen, I still am felt.

Brimful of talent, sense and wit,
I nothing understand;
I'm out of sight in church, but fit
For temples, made by hand.

This cheery little paradox refers to a felt hat!

WORD PUZZLES

Although it may sound "fishy," it is still true that the letters comprising the following anagram can be rearranged into two new words:

"Cod is nice; it lures a Cat."

The words are: *Coincides* and *Articulates*.

* * *

It is lots of fun to figure out sentences which read alike from either end. Here are four old-time examples:

Red rum and murder.

Madam, I'm Adam.

Was it a Cat I saw?

Did Hannah See Bees? Hannah did!

* * *

A popular form of Word Puzzle for party use is the game of making many words out of one.

To illustrate, if the affair is a Lingerie Shower for a bride-to-be, each guest has to make as many words as possible out of the key, "Lingerie Shower." Five or ten minutes are allowed. When you begin to write you will discover there is no limit to the total: Linger, erie, gin, how, show, her, line, leg, etc., etc. No letters can be used that are not in the key—and no letter can be used more often than it appears in the key.

* * *

Still another version of the Word Puzzle is to take the name of the occasion or, possibly, the name of the guest of honor, writing it twice, as follows:

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

B.....Y
 I.....A
 R.....D
 T.....H
 H.....T
 D.....R
 A.....I
 Y.....B

In the intervening spaces the guests have to fill in letters that will make legitimate words. The time available will govern the number of words that must be filled in. If two are specified, then we get words like R ea D, H ea T, B uo Y, etc. If more are desired, the game is that much more difficult.

* * *

Telegram Puzzles also constitute a great fund of merriment at these social gatherings. The method is simple. If the affair is a Thanksgiving party, take the word "Thanksgiving" and write it out on slips of paper with plenty of space between the letters as follows:

T.....H.....A.....N.....K.....
 S.....G.....I.....V.....I.....
 N.....G.....

Then each guest has to write a sensible telegram of twelve words, using the initials as given. The same

can be done with Easter, New Year's, April Fool, Engagement, Birthday, Washington, etc. If it is not concerned with some particular occasion, then take the name of the guest of honor. While it appears to be a simple thing, you will discover that preparing a coherent message from these letters is a matter of considerable ingenuity. Not to mention mirth!

* * *

This game is especially adapted for a May Day Festival or when showering a June bride. The sentences are distributed among the company with the words in italics omitted; these are to be filled in by the guests. The player who fills out the most blanks correctly is the winner. The story follows:

One of the most prominent social events of the season in the *Sunflower* state was the wedding of Miss Flower, better known to her friends as *Sweet Marguerite*. The groom was Mr. W. M. *Aster*, a distant relative of a well-known family by that name. The bride laughingly calls him her *Sweet William*. They were married beneath a *Matrimony Vine* by *Jack-in-the-pulpit*. The *Thyme* for the ceremony was *Four-o'clock*, but the bride lingered so long gazing at her self in *Venus's Looking Glass* that she delayed the ceremony long enough to cause the guests to show *Impatiens*. *Phlox* of their friends came to witness the ceremony. After it was over the minister kissed the bride on her *Tulips* and said, "I hope your love may be *Everlasting*, and that you will never *Rue* this day.

Her *Poppy* had objected to the match, for he wanted her to *Marigold*, but her mother, who was something of a *Sage*, had *Heartsease* when she heard of the engagement, for she knew him to be a nice young man.

Honesty being one of his traits of character, he despised a *Cheat*. Although not rich, he showed *Thrift*.

The bride was not only noted for her beauty, but for her *Humble*, unostentatious ways. She was arrayed in a beautiful gown of white organdy over *Pink* silk, and her feet shod with dainty *Lady's Slippers*. She carried in her hand a bouquet of *Orange Blossoms*; her hair was adorned with golden *Harebells* and diamond *Lad's Ear-drops* sparkled in her ears. Her friend, *Black-eyed Susan*, was her maid of honor. She was attired in a beautiful gown of old *Rose* silk, while the bridesmaids were dressed in gowns of pale *Pink*. The bride's mother wore a handsome gown of *Lavender*. The bride wore on her wedding journey a *Cape Jasmine* and a handsome pair of *Foxgloves* on her hands.

The night after the wedding the young boys serenaded the happy couple by the ringing of *Canterbury Bells* and the blowing of *Trumpet-s*. When the bride came out and treated them to an *Ice* and *Peppermint* candy they thought they were in *Clover*, and declared she was a *Daisy*.

Their wedding journey was a trip up the lakes, and when it came time to leave the bride could scarcely *Tare* herself from loving arms, and her mother, with tears in her eyes, whispered in her ear *For-get-me-not*, while other friends wished them *Traveler's Joy* and said, "*Speedwell* on your journey." Just then the carriage drove up, drawn by the gay *Sorrel* team, and they left the house amid a shower of *Rice* and old *Rubber-s*, and their old *Dogwood* persisted in barking them a farewell. They drove to the *Dock*, where they took the steamer.

Among the presents was a solid gold *Buttercup* and some bank *Stock*, and a friend who liked to joke had given them a *Broom* and a *Flytrap*.

WORD PUZZLES

The words in italics in this story of a dinner-party are to be filled out by the guests with the names of different varieties of roses.

A *Baltimore Belle* gave a dinner-party, to which she invited the following guests: an *American Beauty*, a *Bride* of only a few days and a popular young lady of Baltimore with sweet *Maiden's Blush-es*. The gentlemen invited were a *Rambler* from *La France* and a famous mountain *Climber*, who was noted for wonderful feats along that line, and the noted general, *Marachal Neil*.

The table was covered with beautiful *Damask* roses. From the chandelier was suspended a *Liberty* bell, made entirely of roses. The part of the menu that called forth the most comment were the delicious *Cinnamon* rolls and the *Cabbage* salad; the fine flavor of the *Tea* was also spoken of.

The news of the affair flashed like a *Meteor* across the city, and many *Wild* reports were spread.

* * *

The sentences are distributed among the players with the words in italics omitted. These are to be filled in by the players with the names of trees.

Paw-paw was plastering our house when he ran out of *Lime*. He said, "I wish *Yew* and *Rosewood* to drive to town and buy some *Lime*. If you do I will give you girls some money to buy some fruit and candy."

We hitched the old *Locust* mare to the buggy and started off down the lane, which was lined on either side by tall *Pine* trees; but the *Dogwood* persist in following us, so we had to turn back and tie him to the yard fence, where, no doubt, he would *Pine* until we came *Holm*. We drove down toward the *Beech*, and there

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

we saw coming toward us a *Spruce* young man, whom we recognized as one of the *Poplar* boys of the town to which we were going. My sister talked to him for some time. He told some stories that were old *Chestnut*-s, and they also discussed their favorite authors. He declared his was *Hawthorn*, and she said hers was *Mrs. Holly*. I grew disgusted and said, "*Paw-paw* will scold you," but she only puckered up her *Tulips* and said, "I don't care a *Fig* if he does." Finally it began to rain, and as he did not have an *Umbrella* he moved on, but not before making a *Date* for a further meeting.

We drove on to town and bought not only the *Lime*, but some *Orange*-s and *Lemon*-s in the way of fruits and some *Cocoanut* and *Maple* candies.

* * *

These questions are to be written on slips of paper and distributed among the guests who are to answer them with the names of vegetables.

What vegetable should every poultryman own?
Egg-plant.

What vegetable is applicable to old maids?
Canteloupe (can't-elope).

What vegetable especially belongs to lovers?
Love Apple (to-mato).

What vegetable belongs to the fish family?
Oyster Plant.

What vegetable is like a boy in distress?
Artichokes (Artie-chokes).

What vegetable is painful?
Corn.

WORD PUZZLES

What vegetable is a nut?

Peanut.

What vegetable belongs to the alphabet?

Pea.

What vegetable reminds one of school days?

Parsley (parse-lay).

What vegetable is found in Mother Goose rhymes?

Pumpkin.

What vegetable is called a flower?

Cauliflower.

What vegetable expresses a purpose?

Lettuce (let-us).

What vegetable denotes a victory?

Beet.

What vegetable is often found in vessels?

Leek.

What vegetable is easily crushed?

Squash.

What vegetable is both a porridge and an apartment?

Mushroom.

What vegetable reminds you of a domestic animal?

Horseradish.

What vegetable is noted for its strength?

Pepper.

The player having the most correct answers can be presented with a basket of candy vegetables.

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

The questions asked in this guessing game are to be answered with the names of trees.

- Which is the dandiest tree? Spruce
Which is the dancing tree? Caper
Which is the languishing tree? Pine
Which is the most industrious tree? Service-tree
Which is the warmest-clad tree? Fir
Which is the most kissable tree? Tulip
Which tree can you hold in your hand? .. Palm
Which tree is nearest the sea? Beech
Which tree never stands still? Aspen
Which is the straightest tree? Plum
Which tree is your pet? Dogwood
Which is your father's tree? Paw-paw
Which is the chronologist's tree? Date
Which is the schoolmaster's tree? Birch
Which is the peace tree? Olive
Which tree is most sought after? Poplar
Which tree is an author? Hawthorn
Which tree was President Jackson's tree? Hickory
Which tree is an old story? Chestnut
Which tree belongs to the holidays? Holly
Which tree begins Lent? Ash
Which is the rainy day tree? Umbrella
Which tree is an insect? Locust

WORD PUZZLES

Which tree is liked by silkworms?Mulberry

Which tree is a kind of sugar?Maple

Which is the tree of victory?Laurel

* * *

PREFIX and AFFIX PUZZLES

Word puzzles, depending upon their solution for puns or uses on the prefixes and affixes of common words, are very popular for parties. A series of questions is customarily asked, the answers to which contains words with these timely or pertinent parts.

For instance, an Easter gathering would find the Egg Puzzle quite timely. In this case, the answers all begin with the prefix Ex- distorted to "Eggs" for the occasion. With a dictionary before you, you can figure out any number of such questions, using the following as a model:

Eggs bursting with a loud report Eggs-plosion

Eggs very, very tiredEggs-hausted

Eggs killed by the StateEggs-ecuted

Eggs on a pleasure tripEggs-cursion

Eggs that are vindicatedEggs-onerated

Eggs in intense painEggs-cruciating

Eggs expelled from churchEggs-communicated

Eggs out of the ordinaryEggs-ceptional

Eggs crying out loudEggs-claiming

Eggs bartered for othersEggs-changed

Eggs omittedEggs-cepted

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

Eggs highly indignant	Eggs-asperated
Eggs being closely inspected	Eggs-amined
Eggs that are models	Eggs-amples
Eggs highly magnified	Eggs-aggerated
Eggs much too costly	Eggs-orbitant ✓
Eggs that are precise	Eggs-act
Eggs used for packing	Eggs-celsior
Eggs digging in	Eggs-cavation
Eggs that are erratic	Eggs-centric
Eggs of high quality	Eggs-cellent

* * *

Following this same plan, here is a suggested outline for a St. Patrick's Day party puzzle, playing on the word "Pat."

Pat spreading like a tree	Patulous
Pat with a small pie	Patty
Pat in a light shower	Patter
Pat with a design of a dress	Pattern
Pat as an early Dutchman	Patroon
Pat playing a child's game	Pat-a-cake
Pat in the far Southland	Patagonia
Pat mending his clothes	Patching
Pat with an old-style quilt	Patchwork
Pat registering his idea	Patent
Pat's relations to his son	Paternal

WORD PUZZLES

Pat with white hair	Patriarch
Pat killing his father	Patricide
Pat of a haughty family	Patrician
Pat's inheritance from Dad	Patrimony
Pat as a soldier	Patriotic

You can readily see the possibilities of working up suitable games for any occasion along these lines. Several other suggestions follow.

* * *

THE GAME OF ANTS

What ant is oldest?	Adamant
What ant is joyful?	Jubilant
What ant is learned?	Savant
What ant is well-informed?	Conversant
What ant is trustworthy?	Confidant
What ant is proud?	Arrogant
What ant is angry?	Indignant
What ant gossips?	Informant
What ant is victorious?	Triumphant
What ant is a beggar?	Mendicant
What ant is obstinate?	Defiant
What ant is youngest?	Infant
What ant rules?	Dominant
What ant is adventurous?	Errant

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

- What ant takes possession? Occupant
What ant is expressive? Significant
What ant intreats? Suppliant
What ant holds real estate? Tenant
What ant gives orders? Commandant

* * *

THE GAME OF AGES

- What age do most people reach? Dotage
What age do people most look forward to? Marriage
What age is essential to a soldier? Courage
What age is required at sea? Tonnage
What age is worshipped by pagans? Image
What age do people stick to? Mucilage
What age is uniform? Average
What is the profane age? Damage
What is the settled age? Anchorage
What age confines? Crib-bage
What is the naughty age? Sauce-age
What age is clothed? Garbage
What age counts most? Ad(d)age
What age is punctilious? Dotage
What age is holy? Parsonage
What age is communicative? Postage
What age covers distance? Mileage

WORD PUZZLES

What age embraces slavery?	Bondage
What age has a meter?	Cabbage
What age cultivates?	Tillage
What age travels?	Baggage
What age indicates wealth?	Acreage
What age is fruitful?	Plumage

* * *

THE GAME OF CITIES

What city is for the few?	Scarcity
What city is for the happy?	Felicity
What city is for hypocrites?	Duplicity
What city is for chauffeurs?	Velocity
What city is for the truth?	Veracity
What city is for athletes?	Elasticity
What city is for the greedy?	Voracity
What city is for wild beasts?	Ferocity
What city is for home lovers?	Domesticity
What city is for actors?	Publicity
What city is for the hungry?	Capacity
What city is for the dismal?	Electricity
What city is for mathematicians?	Multiplicity
What city is for the odd?	Eccentricity
What city is for the beggars?	Mendicity
What city is for the unhappy?	Infelicity

What city is for the insistent?Pertinacity

What city is for those who develop early?Precocity

* * *

A very popular form of the old-time riddle consists of a whole list of questions pertaining to some definite subject presented in the form of a game. Each guest is given a sheet of paper on which are written or typed the questions, and it is his task to answer them within a specified time.

Several of these Word Puzzles follow:

A BIRD HUNT

The answer to each question is some form of bird described herein:

1. The bird of Jove; favorite in Rome and Paris, and now popular with the Americans.
2. The bird that figured in the life of an apostle.
3. The bird that symbolizes happiness at home.
4. The poetic bird.
5. The bird which symbolizes self-immolation.
6. The architectural bird.
7. The bird of evil omen.
8. The bird of the nursery.
9. The toy bird.
10. The famous English poem-bird.
11. The famous American love story.
12. The bird which we all seek.

WORD PUZZLES

13. The bird of amity and good will.
14. The bird that is always having a good time.
15. The bird none of us ever saw.

The answers to these questions are: Eagle; Cock; Stork; Raven; Pelican; Wren; Peacock; Robin Redbreast; Kite; Skylark; Kentucky Cardinal; Bird of Paradise; Dove; Lark, and the Auk.

In arranging one of these Word Puzzle games, you can either use a set of the riddles and conundrums given in this book or you can start with a list of subjects (such as Birds) and figure out the questions yourself.

* * *

Have you seen Mumbo-Jumbo of great renown,
In *verbal* jugglery, just come to town?
'Twould be quite impossible to tell unto you
All his curious tricks, but I'll tell you a few:

1. Quietly the juggler sat on his chair,
He took off his head, yet left there the hair.
2. Immediately after a monkey he took,
Put on a new head—'twas a lady's short cloak.
3. He next took a lady's own puppy so "dear,"
And added a vowel—a balm did appear.
4. A county in England he took in a minute,
By seizing a portion, nobody was in it!
5. A county of Ireland (also a town),
By turning and twisting was turned into stone.
6. Of an officer's plume (or a feather would suit),
He took off the tail, and lo! 'twas a fruit.

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

1. He took C from Chair, and it became *hair*;
2. He put this C on ape, and it became *cape*;
3. He took Cur, and by adding E made it *cure*;
4. From Norfolk he took R, and made it *No-folk*;
5. He transposed Cork, and made it *rock*;
6. He omitted E from plume, and made it *plum*.

* * *

The tea-things were gone, and round Grandpapa's chair
The young people tumultuously came;
"Now give us a puzzle, dear Grandpa," they cried;
"An enigma, or some pretty game."

"You shall have an enigma—a puzzling one, too,"
Said the old man with fun in his eye;
"You all know it well; it is found in this room—
Now, see who'll be first to reply:

1. In a bright sunny clime was the place of my birth,
Where I flourished and grew on my native earth;
2. And my parents' dear side ne'er left for an hour
Until gain-seeking man got me into his power—
3. When he bore me away o'er the wide ocean wave;
And now daily and hourly to serve him I slave.
4. I am used by the weakly to keep them from cold,
5. And the nervous and timid I tend to make bold;
6. To destruction sometimes I the heedless betray,
7. Or may shelter the head from the heat of the day.
8. I am placed in the mouth to make matters secure;

WORD PUZZLES

9. But that none wish to eat me, I feel pretty sure.
10. The minds of the young I oft serve to amuse,
While the blood through their systems I freely
diffuse;
11. And in me may the representation be seen,
Of the old ruined castle, or church on the green.
12. While the maimed will acknowledge the debt that
they owe,
To the aid I have given to lessen their woe;
13. And the lifeless are often supported by me,
Where nature's productions collected we see."

Now, how hushed are their voice—how silent they sit,
Each revolving these words in his mind;
While some look at the ceiling, and some on the floor,
In the hopes the right answer to find.

The answer is Cork:

1. It grows in Spain, Italy, etc.
2. It is the bark of the tree, and of course clings to
it until removed.
3. It is conveyed to various countries, and applied to
sundry uses.
4. As cork soles to boots and shoes.
5. In the corks used in swimming.
6. The cork float which betrays the bite of the fish.
7. Cork hats.
8. Cork stoppers in the mouths of bottles.
9. It is not eatable.

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

10. The cork shuttlecock.
11. Cork models.
12. Cork legs and arms.
13. Insects are pinned on cork in entomological cabinets and boxes.

* * *

WORD SQUARES

The object of the game, when playing Word Squares, is to fill out the empty spaces with letters so that the whole square, when completed, will read alike from top to bottom and from left to right.

The Word Puzzle for you to give the guests is printed on the left; the solution to its right:

V I C A R
I
C
A
R . . . W

V I C A R
I R A T E
C A N O N
A T O N E
R E N E W

* * *

E S T A T E
S N
T T
A E
T R
E N T E R S

E S T A T E
S H A V E N
T A L E N T
A V E R S E
T E N S E R
E N T E R S

WORD PUZZLES

. A . . A L	R A S C A L
A . . I . E	A C T I V E
. . A . E .	S T A G E S
. I . A . .	C I G A R S
A . E . . E	A V E R S E
. E . . E .	L E S S E N

* * *

E S C A P E	E S C A P E
S S	S T O V E S
C T	C O V E R T
A E	A V E N U E
P E	P E R U S E
E S T E E M	E S T E E M

* * *

Another type of Word Square, called the Anagram Square, is illustrated here. The puzzle on the left calls for a rearrangement of the words in those squares so that they will spell the same things reading from top to bottom and from left to right:

PROBLEM

B	E	R	R	Y
S	I	G	H	T
D	R	I	L	L
G	H	O	S	T
E	N	T	R	Y

REARRANGEMENT

N	I	G	H	T
I	D	L	E	R
G	L	O	R	Y
H	E	R	B	S
T	R	Y	S	T

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

Here is another Word Square reading the same in each direction. Can you rearrange it, using exactly the same letters, so that it will make a second Word Square?

SOLUTION

C R O W
C L A W
L O V E
R O P E
A P E S
O V E N
W E N T
W E S T

V O T E
W O V E
P R O W
C A L L
S T E W
N E W S
C O R E
N A P E

* * *

In this Dictionary Cross you must fill the vacant squares with letters which will spell the name of a large, ferocious animal when read either way, while the short columns spell other words both ways:

THE CROSS

	S		D	
S	T		A	P
D	A		L	Y
	P		Y	

THE SOLUTION

			G		
		s	O	d	
	s	t	R	a	p
G	O	R	I	L	L A
	d	a	L	l	y
		p	L	y	
			A		

WORD PUZZLES

One of those tricky sentences, reading alike from either end, can be formed by inserting the proper vowels in their places in the following string of letters:

D D H N N H S B S H N N H D D

The sentence, completed, reads:

DiD HaNNaH See BeeS? HaNNaH DiD.

* * *

In each blank space fill in the words that complete the thought, each word having the same letters:

Lady *Bertha*, the beautiful *bather*, one day,
After swimming and diving and splashing away,
Found her *breath* was not equal to further display.
So starting for cricket, she took up *her bat*,
When the wind found *a berth* 'cross *the bar* for her hat!

(Omit the words in Italics when preparing this puzzle for the players or guests.)

* * *

Here is a little problem that will keep the pencils and paper busy for a time: A friendly group of twenty-one people agreed to meet each week, five at a time, for an afternoon of bridge, for just as long a period as they could do so without forming *exactly the same* party on any two occasions. How long would they have to continue their weekly meetings in order to reach the maximum number?

Solution: It would take more than 390 years (20,349 weeks) provided they did not form exactly the same party more than once.

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

Here is a clever puzzle especially adapted for mental calculation:

"On my bookshelf, in proper order, stand two volumes. Each is two inches thick over all, and each has a cover one-eighth of an inch thick. How far would a bookworm have to bore in a straight line in order to penetrate from the first page of Vol. I to the last page of Vol. II?"

Solution: The answer is *one-quarter of an inch*, or the thickness of the covers separating the two volumes.

The only way to prove this satisfactorily is to go over to the bookcase and look at two volumes arranged beside each other in their proper order. You will then observe that the first page of Vol. I is right next to the last page of Vol. II: these two pages are not at the extreme ends of the two books as we commonly assume when the problem is presented.

* * *

Pat, the Pessimist, undertook to deliver a Christmas prophecy. He garbled the message badly, transmitting the following:

"Comes Christmas merry? Hungry birds; no bright berries; rents high; not paid; long bills; empty barns; no peace and prosperity."

See if you can't rearrange the words so as to get the true state of affairs as outlined in the message.

Solution: (reading the sentence in reverse order)
"Prosperity and peace; no barns empty; bills long paid; not high rents; berries bright, no birds hungry; merry Christmas comes."

WORD PUZZLES

Another one for the scribblers and mathematicians:

Johnson's cat went up a tree,
Which was sixty feet and three;
Every day she climbed eleven,
Every night she came down seven.
Tell me, if she did not drop,
When her paws would touch the top.

Solution: Fourteen days of climbing would bring her to the top. At the specified rate, her net gain per day was four feet, and thirteen days of climbing brought her fifty-two feet up the tree. Then, on the fourteenth day, she climbed the remaining eleven feet—and, being a wise cat, didn't slip back seven!

* * *

Those who have a scientific trend can play with this one:

Sons has this ancient King,
Two quiverfuls of six,
Whose praise their daughters sing
By sevens as they mix.
Each son a page attends
With cheeks at times inflated;
Each daughter's life soon ends
Untimely and belated.
No brother sees a brother,
No sister sees another;
The King alone upon his throne
Sees all attend their mother.

This is a symbolic verse referring to the Sun, the Moon and the Year with its Months, Weeks and Days.

RIDDLES AND CONUNDRUMS

If you like arithmetic, pore over this one:

Write down the nine digits in such an order that the first three shall be one-third of the last three, and the central three the result of subtracting the first three from the last.

Solution: 218 — 438 — 657.

* * *

The blank spaces in this allegation contain words each having the same seven letters:

Spouter was so, his side
Was all men could until he died.

The words, in their proper order, are: *Verbose, obverse, observe.*

* * *

Another one with words of seven letters left out:

Now in tomes the professor opined
That by weakly he strengthened his mind.
But he carried so far this observance abstemious,
That it starved all the fire that his genius.

The words are: *Editing, dieting, ignited.*

* * *

You can have a lot of fun at a New Year's gathering by asking the guests to write a short verse using words made up of the letters that occur in the twelve months. It is not permissible to use any letter more often than it appears in that list—or to leave out any that do appear. After everybody has tried his hand at it, read

WORD PUZZLES

them this four-line verse constructed on these specifications:

Burst, joybud, happy let me be,
Come turn, brave year!
A grumbler's murmur I can face,
Enjoy a jeer!

If the verse seems a bit silly, try to write one yourself and see how difficult it is.

* * *

Using your powers of deduction, plus your knowledge of words, you can correctly answer the riddle, "Why is a lame dog like a blotter?"

The answer is:

A lame dog is a slow pup;
A slope-up is an inclined plane;
An ink-lined plane is a blotter!

ANAGRAMS

An anagram is a word or phrase formed by transposing the letters of a different word or phrase. Whenever you find need for the entertainment of a 'group of guests and have run short of ideas, all you need do is write out a half-dozen quotations, proverbs or other sentences and have them write new sentences with exactly the same letters. Some excellent examples of this type of word puzzle have been originated by the English puzzle expert, A. Cyril Pearson. A few of Mr. Pearson's prize anagrams follow, the sentence in italics being the revised version of the proverb:

Rome was not built in a day.

Any labour I do wants time.

A live dog is better than a dead lion.

Be a strong aid alive, not idle death.

When the cat's away the mice will play.

Nay, a wily chap watches the time well.

Many a true word is spoken in jest.

Men joke, and so win trusty praise.

The hoary head is a crown of glory.

Oh fool! How can art dye grey hairs?

Why is every angler *ipso facto* an Ananias?

A liar, he spins gay fancies to a woven yarn!

END

